

Azerbaijan gangs arm with hunting rifles and Kalashnikovs

Moscow uses force to head off civil war

By Hazhir Teimourian and Daniel Treisman

The Soviet Government last night declared a state of emergency in Nagorno-Karabakh and announced that it was to send army, navy and KGB units to the Trans-Caucasus as continuing violence between Azerbaijanis and Armenians was reported.

The Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, had earlier said that Moscow would use force to end the violence which has left at least 34 — mostly Armenians — dead in Baku alone.

"The conflict seems to be hard to solve but the authorities won't allow this to become a civil war," he told Norway's state radio. "The conflict must be solved with the help of military power."

The state of emergency, which gives the military authorities power to ban public meetings, was announced in a decree issued by the President of the Supreme Soviet and signed by President Gorbachev. The decision came after reports that gangs of militants were arming

themselves with automatic weapons and hunting rifles. More than 600 Armenians reportedly fled the Azerbaijani capital, Baku, across the Caspian Sea to Turkmenia, as violent skirmishes continued in the countryside.

Troops were being prevented from protecting Armenian villages north of Nagorno-Karabakh, according to Soviet television.

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which quoted police as saying the situation in some districts was completely out of control.

Militant Azeris in the Azerbaijani city of Kirovabad have blocked roads with hundreds of cars and lorries, and women and children from the village of Turski, on the road from Sharmyan, were said to have blocked the road to prevent interior ministry troops reaching the village. Mr Niyazi Ibrahim, an Azeri nationalist, added that soldiers were also being prevented from leaving an airport for Ajikend, north of the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh enclave.

In the Sharmyan district, a firefight broke out between 300 gunmen when a group of Azerbaijanis tried to set fire to an Armenian farm. Armenians fought back with hunting rifles and Kalashnikov submachine guns, according to Soviet television.

Baku residents, contacted by The Times last night, said that many Armenian families were being evicted, while in the countryside, both sides were taking hostages.

In an exclusive interview with The Times, the main spokesman of the mass nationalist movement, the People's Front, in Baku said his organization was blocking Soviet troop movements and co-operating with communist authorities moving some 15,000 Armenians from Baku to safe places.

Baku itself was described as calm but tense. There were more indications that during the riots on Sunday, the

Azerbaijani police had stood aside to allow rampaging mobs to attack homes.

The Armenian President, Mr Grant Voskanyan, called for troops to protect Armenians in Sharmyan and Khanlar, where thousands of armed militants were reported to be converging.

Nationalist demands in Azerbaijan appear to be hardening. The Fatherland Society, which had placed its hopes in Perestroika, yesterday advocated the expulsion of all Armenians from the region. A spokesman told the Persian Service of the BBC that Karabakh was an integral part of Azerbaijan and that "our nation can never contemplate giving it up".

And the Moscow radio publication, Interfax, reported that young Azeri extremists had formed an organization called Spasenie, or Salvation, which aims to fight for Azerbaijan's sovereignty over Nagorno-Karabakh, topple the authorities and secede from the Soviet Union.

Tehran radio, monitored in London, said that thousands of Azerbaijanis had reached the formerly-banned border region with Iran to demonstrate "support for Islam". It said that some thirty people swam the river Araks to meet Iranian Azerbaijanis.

In the Armenian capital, Yerevan, where a state of emergency has been in force since Sunday, authorities ordered that all hunting rifles be surrendered. But volunteers were said to be forming squads to defend compatriots in Nagorno-Karabakh.

The latest violence comes as Mr Gorbachev prepares for the Central Committee meeting on January 29, which will debate the Lithuanian party's declaration of independence.

Elsewhere in the troubled Soviet regions, Georgian demonstrators have been protesting for three days in the capital, Tbilisi, against demands by the Ossetian minority to break away. At the same time, demands have grown for Georgian independence.



Moscow's might: Soviet security troops backed by an armoured personnel carrier patrol Baku to prevent more killings of Armenians in Azerbaijan's capital.

Brooke silence over claims of special unit's role in shooting

By Richard Ford, Edward Gorman and Michael Evans

Soldiers from a special unit comprising members of the Royal Marines and army regiments were said yesterday to be responsible for the shooting of three men who were robbing a betting shop in Belfast.

As Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, demanded immediate clarification of the incident, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland resisted pressure to reveal more details.

Mr Kevin McNamara, the shadow Northern Ireland Secretary, pressed Mr Peter Brooke to confirm that the shootings had been carried out by a unit he named as the 14th Independent Company. He also demanded to know whether the undercover soldiers had administered the

coup de grace as two of the robbers lay on the ground.

Mr Brooke declined to give answers to a series of questions about the incident but emphasized that the soldiers had come upon the raid "by chance".

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chance". He told the Commons that two soldiers on duty in civilian clothes were leaving west Belfast when they came upon the incident.

"By chance they saw a car approach from the other direction and stop at the junction of the Falls Road and the Whitecross Road. They then saw two masked men, one of

whom was armed with what appeared to be a sub-machine gun, run from the car into a betting shop."

Mr Brooke said that what happened next was being "rigorously pursued" by the Royal Ulster Constabulary, but he added that it was the responsibility of the security forces to take "immediate action" if they came across a situation which appeared to pose a threat to life.

The sub-machine gun used by the robbers and a pistol found in the betting shop were "exact scale replicas".

Mr McNamara claimed that the 14th Independent Company was formed a decade ago to operate in urban areas. A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said it never named

units which carried out operations in Northern Ireland. "As for that title, it is one we don't say is right or wrong. We won't confirm whether that is a correct unit description or a wrong one."

Expressing his "serious misgivings and misgivings about the shootings", Mr Haughey said his Government wanted a full report as soon as possible. The next meeting of the Anglo-Irish Conference is due towards the end of the month and Irish sources insisted they would like a detailed report before then.

They are particularly concerned at why no apparent attempt was made to arrest any of the three men and over the question of whether any warning was given.

Apology by baby's abductor

By a Staff Reporter

Police believe the woman who abducted a new-born baby from St Thomas's Hospital, central London, telephoned the hospital to apologize for stealing the child.

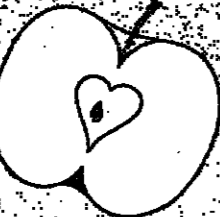
Det Supt John Bassett, who is in charge of the search for Alexandra Griffiths, appealed for the woman to telephone again on a special number, 01 582 0000. He said a call would reassure both him and Miss Dawn Griffiths, the baby's mother, that the child was well.

Details of the call on Friday had been kept secret because Miss Griffiths had been too distraught to be told.

Mr Bassett said he would reassure the caller that the first concern was the baby's safety. Full report, page 2

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THE TIMES GUIDE



Occupational hazards...

● "Work can be not only a headache but a stomach ulcer, a heart attack or a nervous breakdown": on page 11
The Times Guide to Healthy Living continues with a look at how stress at work can kill — and, in some cases, cure

Portfolio

PLATINUM
● Three people shared yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize (see page 3). Today's chance to win £2,000 is on page 25

'Hudson' dies

The theatre, television and film worlds paid tribute yesterday to the actor Gordon Jackson, best known as Hudson in the television series *Upstairs, Downstairs*, who died after a short illness at the age of 66. Obituary, page 14

Sales boost

A late surge in Christmas shopping lifted retail sales by 2.2 per cent in December, rekindling fears that high interest rates have not successfully held down consumer spending. Page 21

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Thousands storm Berlin police HQ

By Anne McElvoy in East Berlin and Our Foreign Staff

Thousands of East German demonstrators stormed the Stasi security police headquarters on East Berlin's Normannenstrasse yesterday, clambering over gates and throwing furniture out of the windows.

Workers bricked up the main entrance while others drove a lorry up to the gates and dumped rubble outside.

ADN, the official East German news agency, said tens of thousands of people had entered the building. Calls from citizens' committees and the New Forum opposition movement for a peaceful demonstration were ignored.

Opposition and government parties broke off round table talks to address the country on television and radio, urging people to stick to the motto of the country's revolution — "No Violence".

"This could be the explo-

sion we have all been fearing," was the initial reaction of one Western diplomat. In contrast to the bloody revolution in Romania, protests against the establishment in East Germany have so far been almost free of violence. But the mood has become tense in the past

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week with mounting warning strikes and calls for the Stasi to be rooted out for good.

Earlier yesterday the round-table meeting heard reports from the Interior Minister and a government official on the disbanding of the Stasi, which employed 85,000 people and had 100,000 informers.

The former East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker, and his security chief, Herr Erich Mielke, are to be investigated. Continued on page 20, col 6

Swedish line buys Sealink

By Martin Waller

The Sealink cross-Channel ferry service is to change hands under the terms of a \$1 billion (£602 million) deal between its owner, the Sea Containers shipping combine, and an Anglo-Swedish consortium.

Tipbook, a British container group, and Stena, a Swedish shipping line, have been mounting a hostile takeover bid for Sea Containers since May with much of the skirmishing taking place in US courts.

But the two sides yesterday announced the end of hostilities under an agreement that allows the Swedes to buy Sealink for the equivalent of \$487 million. At the same time the British company will pay \$537 million for Sea Containers' container rental businesses.

Details, page 21

Release for mother jailed by Pickles

By Michael Horsnell

A supermarket check-out girl will be released today from prison where she has spent two weeks with her baby after a widely criticized sentence by Judge James Pickles for theft.

Lord Chief Justice Lane



said yesterday that Miss Tracey Scott, aged 19, should have been put on probation. Miss Scott, whose daughter is 11 weeks old, will travel from Styal Prison, near Wilmslow, to attend her appeal against sentence at the Court of Appeal in London. She is expected to consent to a two-year probation order.

Judge Pickles accepted at Wakefield Crown Court that she had not deliberately become pregnant to avoid a prison sentence but went on to say that those women who did would not avoid jail.

Lord Lane said the comments might have been relevant as a deterrent. But he criticized the trial judge for being more concerned with what he was saying about women using pregnancy to avoid detention, than with justice.

Details, page 3

Charter drawn up to protect victims of crime

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor



Mr David Waddington: He has ordered a victims' charter.

Victims of crime are to be given a comprehensive series of new rights, including the right to be consulted by police who are deciding whether to caution or charge an offender.

A major complaint about the criminal justice system — that no one is told anything about the crime from which they have suffered after initial visits by the police — will be countered by the provision that police must inform victims about the progress of the case.

Police will have to tell them whether the offender has been given bail, what the outcome of the case was and whether they have a claim to compensation.

The comprehensive Victims' Charter, to be announced next month, has been

drawn up on the orders of Mr David Waddington, the former criminal barrister who became Home Secretary last October.

A recent Criminal Justice Act put the onus on courts to order compensation for victims unless there is a good case not to do so. In addition, the police will now have to ensure that courts are fully aware of the degree of damage suffered.

Victims also complain that giving evidence in court becomes a traumatic experience when defence counsel, seeking to save their clients, set out to destroy the character of victims. The charter will ensure that prosecuting counsel are given the duty of mounting a vigorous defence of victims' characters in response to such attempts.

The Home Office is also supporting

plans for new physical arrangements in courts to make life less traumatic for victims, avoiding confrontation with, or close proximity to, offenders. The voluntary organization Victim Support has been given Home Office funds to conduct experiments to see what changes should be made.

The charter also suggests that probation officers should consult relatives of victims when murderers are released on life licences to determine the conditions of the release, such as restrictions on where the former inmate is allowed to live. They may, for example, be banned from living in the home town of the victim's closest relatives.

To protect the victims of child abuse from confrontation with those accused Continued on page 20, col 7

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Lecturers reject 8% pay offer

Three million further education students face continued disruption after the lecturers' union yesterday rejected an 8 per cent pay offer (Douglas Broom writes). The National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, representing 140,000 lecturers, said it would press ahead with its ban on assessment and examination work.

The move was overshadowed by a dispute among local authority employers over who should lead them in talks with the union. Mr Neil Fletcher, Labour leader of the Inner London Education Authority and a full-time Nalge official, has been told to step down.

He said he did not accept that a ban on union officials acting as employers affected him and that he would not step down. Under the 1989 local government Act, in force from today, elected council members who are also union officials cannot take part in negotiations with employers.

● The Student Loans Company is to appoint Mr Ronald J. Harrison, owner of Pembury Associates, a Scottish management consultancy, as its managing director.

Prisoners escape

Police were last night searching for two criminals who escaped after hijacking a van between prisons yesterday (Peter Davenport writes). John Kelly, aged 22, and James Gilmour, aged 29, both from the Liverpool area and serving sentences for robbery, were being transferred from Yorkshire prisons to Frankland Prison in Durham.

They overpowered three prison officers and the driver on the A1M, then took the van and one of the officers to Shildon, Co Durham, where they hijacked a red Ford Fiesta. Police warned the public not to approach the men.

Fine over pool death

Harrogate Borough Council was fined £2,500 at York Crown Court yesterday for failing to enforce adequate safety measures at one of its swimming pools where Jeffrey Mather, aged 15, of Widdington, Northumberland, a handicapped Barnardos boy, drowned after an epileptic fit. It was ordered to pay £7,000 costs. At an earlier hearing, Barnardos was fined £500 for failing to see that the boy, a pupil at its Spring Hill school at Ripon, was at risk.

Jockeys in drugs trial

Two jockeys appeared at Croydon Crown Court yesterday accused of taking part in a £7 million international drugs smuggling ring. Alan Mackay, aged 29, of Moulton Road, Newmarket, is charged with conspiring with five others to import cocaine to Britain from the West Indies. Frank Curley, of The Stables, Astlebrook, Nottinghamshire, is accused with four others of acting as a courier twice in 1988.

Nanny tricked cabby

A former nanny, who spent more than two months in custody on remand after deceiving a taxi driver into driving 250 miles and disappearing before she had paid him the £162 fee, received a year's conditional discharge at Horseferry Road court in London yesterday and was ordered to pay £100 in compensation. Anna Freeland, aged 33, of Tankerville Street, Streatham, south London, was also found guilty of attempting to burgle the house of her former employer.

Hippo road victim

A three-ton hippopotamus named Hilda was briefly at liberty on the A303 near Thruxton, Hampshire, yesterday, but died later while being returned to Longleat in Wiltshire. The animal, valued at £5,000, broke free after the lorry in which she was being transported to Windsor Safari Park jack-knifed, overturning her trailer. Mr Roger Cawley, manager of Longleat Safari Park, tranquillized her, but she died on the way back to Longleat.

Means-test plan for setting fines

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

Proposals for courts to impose fines based on an offender's ability to pay are expected to be a main ingredient in the White Paper on the criminal justice system due within the next few weeks.

Ministers have been impressed by the results of experiments in Basingstoke, Bradford, Teesside and Swansea over the past 18 months which have shown an improvement in the payment of fines using a formula of pay and wage "units" calculated against the severity of the offence.

The scheme, which operates in various forms in Sweden, Denmark, West Germany, Austria and Finland, is said to be fairer and more effective than present practice. Initial results last year from the experiments showed a drop in unpaid fines.

Courts now have to consider income when setting fines and the time allowed for payment. The latest experi-

ments used a system of means testing to even out the differences between rich and poor on the effects of fines.

The gravity of an offence was measured in terms of weeks, multiplied by the amount of spare money a defendant was calculated to have. Existing maximum penalties could not be exceeded.

Under the scheme, an unemployed man, aged 29, was fined £39 by Basingstoke magistrates for stealing a pair of jeans. They noted his £33 weekly income from benefits and fined him 10 weeks at £3 per week disposable cash, plus three weeks at £3 for costs.

A solicitor aged 36 was fined £220 and disqualified for drink-driving after the court had calculated the offence at 10 weeks at £20 per week plus £20 for costs.

In West Germany and Sweden offenders are fined in units of a day's pay but that system does not have Home Office support.

Ruling on RUC to have wide impact in Ulster

By Jamie Dettmer

The Law Lords were asked yesterday to make a crucial ruling affecting Northern Ireland by deciding whether Royal Ulster Constabulary officers involved in an undercover operation seven years ago should be compelled to give evidence in an inquest into the deaths of three terrorist suspects.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, asked the Law Lords to overturn a ruling by the Court of Appeal in Belfast requiring three police officers to give evidence into an inquest into the deaths of Gervaise McKerr, Sean Burns and Eugene Toman.

A decision by the Law Lords upholding the Court of Appeal's ruling will affect the whole conduct of inquests in the province. It would also have serious consequences for the public accountability of the

security forces in Northern Ireland and could lead to the reopening of inquests into other controversial shootings by soldiers and police.

McKerr, Burns and Toman were shot and killed by members of the elite Headquarters Mobile Support Unit after a car chase outside Lurgan on November 11, 1982. The shootings, which prompted allegations that the RUC was operating a "shoot-to-kill" policy, were later investigated by Mr John Stalker, then deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester.

An inquest into the deaths of the three men in November 1988 was abandoned only three days after starting when McKerr's widow, Eleanor, successfully sought leave to apply for a judicial review.

Her lawyers won an action in the Northern Ireland Court of Appeal requiring the three police officers to give evidence at the inquest. Mr

Brian Kerr, QC, opening the Crown's appeal yesterday, told the Law Lords he would submit that a person suspected of causing a death could not be compelled to give evidence at a coroner's inquest into that death and that the Northern Ireland Appeal Court had erred in holding that the provisions in the Northern Ireland coroner's rules were unlawful.

Lords Ackner, Goff, Jauncey, Keith and Templeman will have to consider two rules operated by coroners in Northern Ireland. They state that a person suspected of causing a death, or who was charged with an offence relating to the death, cannot be compelled to give evidence at an inquest.

The Court of Appeal decided that these rules, contained in the Coroners' Rules and Procedures 1963, which were passed by order in council and not by the Commons,

undermined the Coroners' Act 1959.

Inquest rules in Northern Ireland differ markedly from those operating in England and Wales. In the province, a coroner does not have to hold an inquest if he believes that the basic facts of a case have been established during a court case. Northern Ireland inquests are not able to deliver a verdict on criminal or civil liability. All they can do is establish the identity of the deceased and the cause of death.

Nationalist politicians have argued for years that Northern Ireland's inquest practice should be brought into line with that of England and Wales.

The three police officers at the centre of the legal battle were prosecuted in 1984 for the murder of Toman but were acquitted.

The hearing continues today.

● The use of plastic bullets by police

at a border crossing in Co Tyrone on Sunday night is the latest sign that the security forces are no longer tolerating attempts by nationalists to reopen closed roads (Edward Gorman writes).

Mr Kevin Connolly, aged 20, from Clogher, was shot in the head with a plastic bullet and taken to hospital in Monaghan, where he was later described as "fairly comfortable".

There are allegations that Mr Connolly was hit about 30 yards from the Irish Republic during the affray at the Ballagh Bridge crossing on the Monaghan-Tyrone border. Police said a crowd of about 100 people was involved.

The security forces are facing a campaign by nationalist pressure groups who argue that the closure of many remote border lanes in the 1970s can no longer be justified on security grounds.

Unofficial strike action brings Ford to standstill

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

Production at Ford, Britain's biggest car maker, will be at a standstill tomorrow as thousands of workers walk out on wildcat strike action to force the company to raise its 10.2 per cent pay offer.

Many of Ford's 32,000 manual workers are expected to take part in the 24-hour "day of action", which has been timed to coincide with the reopening of negotiations on their two-year pay claim.

Wildcat action broke out in advance of the talks yesterday, closing the Bridgend engine plant in South Wales and forcing the lay-off of 1,000 workers at Halewood on Merseyside.

Company executives - who have been criticized by ministers for their double-figure percentage offer - were furious last night that guarantees from national union leaders that no industrial action would be taken during the negotiations have been broken.

However, union leaders warned that the token walk-outs undermined the strength of feeling against Ford's two-year pay offer.

Mr Jack Adams, the Transport and General Workers' Union chief negotiator, said last night: "It appears that Ford has underestimated and misjudged the expectations of its workers and this action is a reflection of their feelings."

Ford said: "We are very disappointed with this action. We were specifically given assurances by the unions that there would be no industrial action, at least until we were given the chance of reopening negotiations."

"Now we are in a situation where our plants are severely disrupted and while talks take place, our major production sites may be virtually closed down."

Bridgend, which makes 2,400 engines a day for Escort, Orion and Fiesta models, shut down from 6am yesterday as 300 craftsmen started indefinite action. They were joined by 400 assembly workers.

At Halewood, more than 1,000 workers had to be laid off after 600 maintenance men refused to work and called an indefinite strike. Assembly lines turning out the Escort, Ford's best-selling car, broke down and could not be repaired.

The company's largest site, in Dagenham, Essex, was

working normally yesterday but it will also join the unofficial dispute tomorrow. Up to 6,000 workers are expected to strike from 6am at the plant, disrupting all production of Fiesta compact cars and Sierra saloons and hatchbacks.

Ford's two other Welsh plants, at Swansea and Treforest, Mid Glamorgan, were working normally yesterday but shop stewards at the Swansea axle and transmission factory, which employs 1,500, were holding meetings to decide whether to join the unofficial action.

Union leaders have said they will hold a ballot after tomorrow's negotiations. It seems unlikely, however, that the management will offer much more than the deal it tabled last week which drew so much criticism from the Government for being inflationary.

The 10.2 per cent offered in the first year would put between £21 and £25 extra in pay packets. Another 7.5 per cent, or the rate of inflation plus 2.5 per cent, whichever is the greater, is offered for the second year.

Unions say Ford's workers deserve a bigger slice of the company's record £673 million profits to put them at the top of the industry's wages league. Their determination has been increased by the fact that they lag behind production workers at Jaguar, the new Ford subsidiary, who earn up to £34 a week more.

However, the toughest negotiating hurdle will be hours. Apart from an extra two days' holiday, the company has refused to bow to union demands for a cut in working time in spite of union claims that Ford's British workers complete an average 38 days a year more than the company's workers in West Germany.

Union leaders have asked for the 39-hour week to be cut to 35 hours, but they would accept a compromise of 37 hours.

The issue will be the centrepiece of negotiations with Ford insisting that it cannot afford to cut working time when its British factories are already less productive than European competitors. The company claims it takes 77 hours to build a car at Dagenham, compared with 56 hours in Spain and just 48 in West Germany.

Phone caller says she took baby

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

Scotland Yard detectives who are searching for the 36-hour-old baby abducted from a London hospital disclosed yesterday that a woman had telephoned the hospital and apologized for taking the little girl before ringing off abruptly.

Police believe the call is the best clue they have to finding the baby. It is the only call they have received from anyone claiming to have the baby.

The woman, speaking with a soft south London accent, called St Thomas's Hospital, central London, at 2pm on Friday, the day after Alexandra Griffiths was taken from the hospital's maternity ward by a woman posing as a health visitor.

The woman, speaking with no sign of emotion, told a hospital switchboard operator: "I am sorry I took the baby." She then hung up.

Yesterday Det Supt John Bassett appealed for the woman to call again on a special telephone number - 01 582 0000 - which will be manned from 9am to 10 pm.

Mr Bassett said the caller had the same accent as the woman who took the baby. "This is a major development. As this is the only call I have had I have got to be optimistic she is the abductor. I would like her to get in touch again on the number I have given so that I can be reassured and the mother can be reassured," he said.

"I hope she is feeling remorse. Possibly she has now had time to reflect and is beginning to see reason. Maybe I can induce her to talk to someone. I might be successful in getting the child returned."

The first thing was to get reassurance for the parents that the child was well. He would reassure the woman that the first concern was the safety of the child.

Police, who have had advice from a psychologist, are standing by to talk to the caller with social workers, priests and members of the baby's family on hand if necessary, including the child's mother.

Mr Bassett said Miss Dawn Griffiths, aged 20, Alexandra's mother, was not told of the



Police officers at work in the incident room where more than 1,000 calls have been received.

call until yesterday afternoon.

He decided not to tell her earlier because he did not think she was in any condition to take the news and he had to wait over the weekend while a special telephone line was set up. The police had been inundated with information calls from the public.

Mr Bassett said the decision to keep the call secret until yesterday was his decision and it was a calculated risk.

Woman Police Constable

Nicky Pearce, who has been with the mother over the past four days, said she thought Miss Griffiths would be able to talk to the abductor if necessary.

"The parents are very supportive to each other and very brave people. Both have been hurt."

Miss Griffiths was optimistic she would get her baby back, she said. She was getting stronger and stronger each day.

Mr Bassett also appealed yesterday for a woman, seen with an old carrycot near the hospital on the night that Alexandra was taken, to come forward.

His team was reinforced yesterday to total nearly 40 staff, based on the second floor of Tintagel House, a Yard annex overlooking the Thames. The team is using computers to store and sift information from across Britain.

Ambulance dispute

Unions fight to keep control

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Ambulance union leaders were last night fighting to maintain the discipline of their 18-week-old dispute as crews throughout London were threatening today to hold ballots on all-out indefinite strikes.

The strike threat from more than 20 stations in London is the most serious challenge to the authority of union leadership, which has always insisted that the 999 emergency service must be maintained. Union leaders believe their commitment to maintaining the service has been a cornerstone in gaining public support.

Mr Roger Poole, the unions' chief negotiator, said: "The unions have not approved any strike ballots during this dispute and we strongly urge members to maintain the accident and emergency service they are providing direct to the public."

The threat of widespread total stoppages came as striking ambulance crews at

Crawley, West Sussex, were being urged to abandon their four-day-old action.

Yesterday, the Crawley men were absolved of responsibility for the death of Mr William Coupland, aged 37, who died at his home after a 31-minute delay between a 999 call and the arrival of a fully equipped ambulance at his home a mile away from the ambulance station.

Dr Colin Hunter-Craig, the pathologist who carried out a post-mortem examination, said: "The reported delay in obtaining ambulance assistance has in no way contributed to his death."

Pressure for an all-out strike is mounting after some ambulance crews became convinced that while they operate emergency services the Government will be prepared to "ride out the storm".

One shop steward who yesterday lobbied the NUPE offices said: "All we are doing at the moment is baiting out the police and Army. The only

reason crews have not been walking out on strike in many areas is because shop stewards have been keeping them in line. If we go on strike, against our advice, we will lose our £21-a-week dispute pay from the union, but so what?"

It emerged yesterday that the ambulance dispute has cost the taxpayer at least £10 million. In South Yorkshire alone, the costs are running at £320,000 a week.

Striking ambulance crews at Crawley said yesterday they broke their picket line to save the life of a newborn baby. They said they sped to a local hospital after a doctor pleaded for help on Sunday night.

One of the ambulancemen, Mr John Berry, said: "The doctor drove from Crawley hospital half a mile away and asked if we could take a premature baby to a London hospital for urgent treatment." Mr Berry said he had no doubts about helping immediately and he drove an ambulance to the hospital.

Cut-price DSS mail from afar

By Nigel Williamson, Political Staff

The Department of Social Security has awarded a postal contract to a firm that is now posting five million official government letters outside the United Kingdom.

As a result government mail is being despatched in envelopes bearing an assortment of exotic postmarks from Copenhagen, Dubai, Sydney, Auckland, Kuala Lumpur, Amsterdam and Hong Kong.

The contract was awarded last July to the private carriers DHL, over tenders from the Royal Mail's international division and TNT. It covers all DSS international mailing from its headquarters in London and its two main offices, in Newcastle upon Tyne and North Fylde, Lancashire.

The firm takes the mail overnight to a centre at Heathrow where it sorts and ships them to other parts of the world where it can post the items more cheaply.

Mr Dennis Skinner the Labour MP will this week table parliamentary questions about the contract, which means, for example, that British pensioners now receive their pensions from the DSS Overseas Branch at Newcastle in an envelope postmarked Copenhagen. He said last night: "This is privatization gone mad."

During the Times newspaper's first survey of the DSS's new postal arrangements, it was found that 10,000 letters were sent to the DSS's new postal centre in Copenhagen. The survey also found that 10,000 letters were sent to the DSS's new postal centre in Newcastle. The survey also found that 10,000 letters were sent to the DSS's new postal centre in Newcastle.

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Waddington warns rebels

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Conservative MPs were warned last night that defeat for the Government's nationality package for Hong Kong might lead to a collapse of confidence in the colony.

If millions of refugees decided to flee Hong Kong Britain would be in the front line for taking them, they were told.

But a revolt remained likely after two to one of those speaking at a meeting of backbenchers opposed the Government's plans. Mr

David Waddington, the Home Secretary, told the home affairs committee that the Government's plans to give entry rights to the families of 50,000 key heads of household were designed to prevent mass immigration rather than encourage it.

He emphasized that the figure of 50,000 would be written into the legislation.

Mr Waddington told MPs who have been threatening a substantial revolt over the plans that if a mass exodus of

Hong Kong Chinese occurred after the hand-over to China in 1997 Britain would be seen by the international community as being responsible for taking them in.

Mr Steven Norris, chairman of the committee, who has considerable reservations about the plan, said: "The fact that 100 colleagues were present tells its own story and shows the depth of concern around. They are simply not impressed by the logic of the Government's proposals."

and The Times, and takes place amid growing demand in the legal profession for law and other graduates.

Miss Anne-Marie Martin, senior careers adviser at London University, said that competition for law students and others remained keen, particularly between the legal profession and others such as accountancy.

Although law firms were not particularly pessimistic about the demographic downturn, they were still concerned with the need to attract and retain graduates. Miss Martin said: "There is a feeling that

the relatively long training, with the finals course, and then articles, up until becoming a partner, deters people, who are being wooed into financial and other careers."

Mr Brian Read, of Sheffield University careers advisory service, said that figures on the careers of all law graduates show a steady rise in the proportion going into other disciplines. In 1988, of the 4,920 law graduates, just over 50 per cent went into the profession, compared with 57 per cent in 1985. The numbers going into the solicitors' branch of the profession had been restricted by

the limit on the number of places for the Law Society finals course, he said, although a new college of law course had started at York.

Law firms are also turning to non-law graduates to fill their vacancies, according to Mrs Diana Langley, administrative officer in the London University careers office. One big City firm had said that one fifth of its intake was non-law graduates.

Despite reports that there are now surplus solicitors in some areas of work such as conveyancing - with resulting redundancies - Miss Jenny Goddard, of the Law Society's careers department, said new fields were opening up. Many were in connection with Europe and the coming of the single market.

There is still also demand from students to go into legal aid work, and a directory of firms involved will be available at the fair.

● The second in a series of advertisements in a campaign to recruit qualified lawyers in the Crown Prosecution Service appears today. At present, 78 per cent of lawyer posts in the service are filled and 95 per cent of other posts.

Legal Brief, page 28

07/07/1990

Mother and baby to go free as Lord Lane criticizes Pickles

By Michael Horsnell

A supermarket checkout girl who was jailed with her baby daughter after Judge Pickles said women could not escape imprisonment by deliberately becoming pregnant will be freed today.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, said Judge Pickles seemed to have been more concerned with the public import of what he was doing and saying than with the justice of it.

Tracey Scott, aged 19, who was sentenced to six months' youth custody for allowing customers to steal from the shop where she worked, should have been placed on probation, the Court of Appeal ruled. She was not in court and will be taken to Styal prison in Cheshire to London today to agree to the probation order.

While accepting that Scott had not deliberately become pregnant to avoid a prison sentence, Judge Pickles had said that those women who did would not avoid jail.

Lord Lane said Miss Scott could have profited from advice and guidance, but "unfortunately the judge saw fit to unbend himself on the topic of young women who might be minded to become pregnant to avoid detention."

"The impression was left — whether intentionally or not — by this judge's remarks that he was using this case to show the unwisdom of women embarking upon pregnancy to escape a prison sentence. That impression, to say the least, was most unfortunate."

It was the second time in a year that Judge Pickles's de-

cisions had been attacked by the Lord Chief Justice. Lord Lane criticized him last year after he jailed Michelle Renshaw for contempt when she refused to give evidence against a former boy friend because she was frightened.

Scott, of Longhill Road, Huddersfield, was sentenced at Wakefield Crown Court two weeks ago, after Judge Pickles had twice delayed his decision so that custodial places could be found for the teenager and her daughter, Alesha, now aged 11 weeks. He said it was vital the pair should not be separated.

Scott had admitted nine charges of theft and one of attempted theft in allowing customers to take goods worth about £4,000 without paying. She was said to have committed the offences to buy popularity and had made no financial gain.

Yesterday, Lord Lane said that Judge Pickles had been told before sentencing Scott that two women he had jailed

for stealing from the store had been freed on appeal, yet he insisted that for helping them "to loot" the store, Scott deserved a custodial sentence.

But Lord Lane, sitting with Mr Justice Leggatt and Mr Justice Hutchison, said the sentence was wrong and had Scott been in court, she would have been freed immediately. The sentence would be quashed if she was brought from Cheshire to court today.

After the hearing, Mr Ken Green, Miss Scott's solicitor, said: "We are absolutely delighted. We felt Judge Pickles's comments were uncalled for and it would appear the Appeal Court has confirmed that. I hope Judge Pickles will take Lord Lane's remarks to heart."

Mrs Marjorie Sylvester, Miss Scott's mother, repeated calls for Judge Pickles to resign or be dismissed. She said: "He has no compassion and is heartless. He should have given Tracey probation but he's always wrong and will never resign."

The National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders welcomed the decision as "a victory for compassion and common sense", and Mr Adam Sampson, of the Prison Reform Trust, said: "Judges have the power to hand down entirely inappropriate sentences without being disciplined. Tracey Scott has spent two weeks in custody when quite clearly there was no need."

Judge Pickles, aged 64, was on holiday yesterday and unavailable for comment. *Law Report, page 28*



Lord Lane: Second attack on Judge Pickles.

Greenpeace move to stop sea dumping



The Greenpeace ship Sirius arriving in the Tyne to protest at the continued granting by Great Britain of licences to dump toxic waste in the North Sea.

By Mark Sonster

Greenpeace, the environmental pressure group, yesterday launched a two-month campaign of protest against the dumping of toxic waste in the North Sea, as its protest ship Sirius arrived on Tyneside.

The action, timed to coincide with the second reading of the "Green" Bill in Parliament, will culminate in March at the third North Sea conference of environment ministers at The Hague in The Netherlands.

Greenpeace hopes that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food will not renew 22 dumping licences which

it says are due for renewal this year, but the ministry says only 10 will come up for renewal. The first three applications are now with the ministry. Greenpeace says the applications will test the Government's commitment to the phasing out of dumping at sea.

Each year, about a quarter of a million dry tonnes of toxic waste from industrial and domestic sources are dumped at sea at 14 sites around the British Isles, much of it into the North Sea.

Despite being a signatory to the 1987 North Sea Declaration, Britain is the only West European country

that has neither stopped nor produced plans to stop its policy of sludge dumping at sea. However, Britain says it is committed to the spirit of the declaration, which states that dumping should cease unless "no practical land-based alternative exists and it can be shown that the materials dumped pose no risk to the marine environment".

The governments of West Germany, The Netherlands, Sweden, Norway and Denmark have protested to the ministry about Britain's waste dumping operations in the North Sea. They complain that Britain has not provided evidence that the dumping

causes no damage to the marine environment. Nine members of the European Parliament's environment committee and more than 80 British MPs have voiced similar concerns.

Mr Paul Horsman, toxics officer for Greenpeace, said: "Every other North Sea state has found land-based alternatives to sea dumping. Britain must follow suit. It is time the UK stopped treating our seas as a sewer."

The firms seeking renewals are Sterling Organics (42,000 tonnes), Fisons (6,000 tonnes) and Orsynetics (3,000 tonnes). Fisons, however, is understood to have found alternative methods of disposal onshore.

Praise for police in shoot-out

A judge yesterday praised police for their bravery in facing armed robbers in a gun battle which left two raiders dead. But he said he was not prepared to comment on the wider issue of the rights and wrongs of public shoot-outs.

The Central Criminal Court was told the men were shot dead by Police Constable Neil Simpson, aged 30, a marksman, who had been shot in the ankle during the raid in the Twyford Road, Harrow, north-west London.

From a sitting position he fired back at the two men still shooting at him, hitting them in the chest and fatally wounding them.

Mr Nigel Sweeney, for the prosecution, said: "PC Simpson was genuinely and realistically in fear of his life."

A third robber, who threw away his sawn-off shotgun when the shooting started, was jailed for 13 years yesterday after pleading guilty to attempted robbery, wounding with intent to resist arrest and firearms offences.

Mr Justice Roush told John Michael Gorman, aged 49, a market trader, of Fordwych Road, Cricklewood, north-west London: "This raid was no amateur effort. It was very sophisticated and carefully planned. The three of you cared very little for anyone who stood in your way and you were prepared to blast your way out with guns."

The shootings last April came after police found stolen cars planted around the area and stationed armed detectives to foil any raid. They saw the three robbers checking the cars' positions and realized that their target was a local post office.

The raiders tried to drive off when they realized they were being watched and the shootings began after they abandoned their car.

The two men who died were Terence Dewsnapp, aged 48, of Gillingham, near Margate, Kent, and James Farrell, aged 52, of Hanwell, west London.

Kidney payments inquiry

NHS charge is dropped

By John Young

A charge that a leading transplant surgeon knowingly misled a London hospital by asking for a private patient to be included on an NHS waiting list was dropped yesterday after a laboratory technician admitted that she knew all along that the woman concerned was a private patient at the Wellington Hospital in north London.

Mr Michael Bewick is one of three doctors charged with serious professional misconduct in relation to alleged payments to kidney donors. The others are Dr Raymond Crockett, a kidney specialist, and Mr Michael Joyce, a urologist. All three deny the charges.

At the start of the fourth week of the hearing by the General Medical Council professional conduct committee, Miss Lesley Kennedy, a tissue

typist (laboratory technician) at Guys Hospital, south London, said that Mr Bewick had been anxious to obtain a kidney for transplant into Mrs C T, a private patient from Greece, after an earlier transplant operation had failed. Mrs C T's name had been added to a list of NHS patients on the door of a refrigerator in the laboratory.

The purpose of the list was to enable blood and tissue details of all the people appearing on it to be automatically cross-matched with those of potential donors.

On November 21, 1988, after the weekend during which a kidney from a NHS donor was transplanted into Mrs C T, Miss Kennedy said she made a routine call to Mr Bewick. She immediately knew that he had transplanted an NHS kidney into a non-

entitled private patient.

Mr Joseph Aslan, director of Sunquest Holidays, of Ealing, west London, said that from 1980 until March 1988 he employed Mr Ata Nur Kunter as his chief accountant. Mr Kunter is one of three Turkish brothers who have been described as "kidney brokers".

Mr Aslan said that some months after Mr Kunter left his employment he ordered return air tickets from Istanbul to London in the names of Mr Usta and Mr Koc, two of the Turks who are alleged to have been paid to donate their kidneys. In Mr Usta's case the invoice had been addressed to the National Kidney Centre, in north London, where Dr Crockett was medical director.

The hearing continues today.

Shoes to pump up profits

By Gillian Bowditch

The latest craze in US footwear is about to hit the streets of Britain. It costs £129.99, is called the Pump, and it may change the fortunes of the US sportswear group Reebok, which is 32 per cent owned by the British Pentland Group.

The Pump is a basketball boot with an inflatable lining which gives a customized fit to the wearer. It is inflated, once the shoe is on the foot, by a small pump in the shape of a miniature orange basketball on the shoe's tongue. The air is released through a small valve on the heel.

The idea is to support the ankle and foot and give added stability and shock absorption to players of basketball, a game notorious for its crash landings. But for streetwise teenagers, who make up about 80 per cent of Reebok's market, the gimmick is both fashionable and fun. It is they

who have turned the Pump into a craze.

The 90,000 pairs which went on sale in the US at the end of November have already sold out. One thousand pairs went to sports shops in the UK last month and also sold out. However, the Pump



will not be properly launched in the UK until the end of March. Reebok shares have risen over 25 per cent since September although Pentland's shares, which peaked at 95p in September, have fallen back to 80p.

The shoe has taken two years to develop and has so far cost Reebok \$10 million in research and development and marketing costs. Mr Paul Fireman, Reebok's chairman and chief executive, believes the shoe is too complicated and too expensive to produce for the market to be flooded by cheap imports.

He hopes to apply the Pump technique to shoes for tennis players and bikers.

For Reebok, the Pump may mean an upturn in its fortunes, which have waned since it introduced Freestyle, the bestselling women's aerobics shoe in the mid-1980s.

Drugs gang must forfeit £3m

By Michael Horsnell

Drug smugglers trapped after a tip-off from Russian customs officers were yesterday ordered to pay back nearly £3 million of their £7.5 million illegal assets.

It is the biggest seizure of investments, bank accounts, homes and businesses made so far under the 1986 drug trafficking offences Act.

The gang of five men were jailed yesterday for a total of 47 years at Chelmsford Crown Court. James Rose, aged 53, a company director, of Sutherland Avenue, Fens Wood, Kent, the "drugs baron" who had led the team which im-

ported £50 million of cannabis resin, was jailed for 12 years for smuggling.

He was given 12 months to comply with a confiscation order of £2,304,679 or face a further 10-year sentence.

Alan Small, aged 44, of Rotherhithe, south-east London, was jailed for 10 years for conspiracy. He was given 12 months to comply with a confiscation order of £379,835 or face a further five years in jail.

Andrew George, aged 37, of Leydon Hatch Lane, Hextable, Kent, a financial consultant found guilty of two

charges of money laundering, was jailed for nine years. A confiscation order of £91,237 was made and he was given 12 months to comply or face another two years in jail.

Martin Reeves, aged 41, of Trust Walk, West Dulwich, London, a radio expert, was found guilty of smuggling and jailed for nine years.

Rose's son, Richard Rose, aged 25, of Mottingham Lane, Eltham, London, who admitted importing cannabis, was jailed for seven years and ordered to forfeit £83,794 in 12 months or face another two years in jail.

PORTFOLIO

Divided by three

A retired mathematics teacher is one of three winners in The Times Portfolio Platinum competition. Mr Emlyn Crooke, of Padstow, Cornwall, shares the £2,000 prize with Mr Anil Bagga, of Farnham, south London, and Mrs Enda Stannell, of Poole, Dorset. Each will receive £666.66.

Mr Crooke, aged 58 and a Times reader for 40 years, plans to spend about £100 on a new set of golf waterproofs and the rest on some new carpets.

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Europe-wide network to woo business travellers

From Harvey Elliott, Brussels

Business travel in Europe could be revolutionized under plans to turn Brussels into an aviation junction linking cities from Scandinavia to the Mediterranean.

The new Sabena World Airlines (SWA), in which British Airways has a 20 per cent stake, will fly from regional cities such as Bristol or Norwich in four waves each day, guaranteeing that no passenger has to wait more than one hour, 45 minutes for any onward connection.

The first wave will arrive at Brussels early in the morning, coming back within two hours. The aircraft will then return to Brussels in the early evening to collect passengers and take them home.

The network, which will involve redevelopment of Brussels airport, is expected to be operating by 1995, linking 75 cities with populations of more than 250,000.

The plan, outlined in Brussels yesterday by the Sabena chairman, Mr C. Van Rafeleghem, is bound to lead to conflict in the European Commission. Mr Michael Bishop, the British Midland chairman, has described the new airline as "anti-competitive" and hopes that Sir Leon Brittan, the competition commissioner, will either block the scheme or impose strict conditions. But Mr Van Rafeleghem said yesterday that he did not believe the commission would want to interfere.

Sabena, which holds a 60

per cent stake in the enterprise, is determined to remain in control of the new subsidiary, even though British Airways has invested £34 million in it. The remaining 20 per cent stake is held by the Dutch airline KLM.

● The creation of a 300-mile network of priority Red Routes to ease traffic congestion throughout London could fail because of "poor enforcement", the RAC said yesterday (Our Transport Correspondent writes).

Mr David Worslett, the RAC's public affairs director, said the scheme unveiled by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Transport, lacked imagination and was a piecemeal solution that failed to recognize that London's traffic required proper co-ordination.

Under the scheme, to be monitored by a Traffic Co-Ordinator, arterial routes into the capital would be designated primary routes, with severe restrictions on stopping and loading.

But while welcoming the initiative, Mr Worslett told a one-day seminar organized by the RAC to discuss the proposals: "The problems are too severe to be resolved by reliance on simple solutions."

Mr Worslett accused the Government of continuing to see London as a series of villages, and of failing to appreciate the need for "strong co-ordination and centralized control" of traffic management.

The actor remembered for his professionalism



Gordon Jackson, who died on Sunday, will be best remembered for his television roles in *Upstairs, Downstairs* (top left, with Angela Baddeley) and *The Professionals* (below right, with Martin Shaw and Lewis Collins). Among his many films were *Tunes of Glory* with Sir Alec Guinness (top right) and *Whisky Galore* with James Robertson Justice and Gabrielle Blum.



Anonymous testing for Aids virus begins

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Anonymous testing of patients' blood samples for traces of the Aids virus began yesterday at 10 antenatal clinics and five clinics for sexually transmitted diseases.

By the end of the year up to 250,000 people will have had samples analysed in a government scheme that will run for many years. Blood samples taken for other reasons will also be screened for antibodies to the human immunodeficiency virus, HIV.

None of the patients will know the results of the tests. Only the patient's age, sex, and the locality of the clinic will be known to laboratory staff.

The first phase of the scheme will involve 120,000 pregnant women and 30,000 patients from sexual diseases clinics. This will be followed

by tests on 100,000 patients at general hospitals.

Britain and the United States are the only countries to introduce anonymous testing. The aim is to assess the prevalence of the virus.



Sir Donald Acheson: Tests "cause patients no harm".

particularly among the young heterosexual population.

The surveys will help scientists to produce more accurate predictions about the number of people becoming infected with HIV. This will help the Government to plan prevention activities and health services.

Leaflets available at the clinics make it clear patients can opt out if they have objections, while those who take part will not have any difficulty obtaining a mortgage or life insurance.

Sir Donald Acheson, the Government's chief medical officer, has said there is no reason why people should be anxious about taking part as "their identities will never be known and no possible harm can come to them from having the test". The number of

people known to be infected with HIV in Britain is 11,676, although the real figure is believed to be much higher.

● Most children know the facts of life by the time they are aged 14 but are unhappy about the way they are told, according to research published today.

The survey for Mates Healthcare, the contraceptive company, shows that 60 per cent felt their mothers should have told them while only 32 per cent said their mothers had done so.

Fathers had told 11 per cent, but 42 per cent said fathers should play a bigger role in sex education.

Nearly 50 per cent of the 288 respondents, aged 16 to 19, thought the classroom was the right place to learn the facts of life. Only 5 per cent

thought friends were the best people to pass them on, although 40 per cent said they had heard from friends first.

Four in 10 of those interviewed, who were allowed to give more than one answer, said they had been told by teachers.

Seventeen per cent said they had learnt about sex through books and magazines, 2 per cent had been told by doctors, but 15 per cent thought they should have been.

One teacher said: "We teach them the heart, the liver and respiratory system of a human being and the reproductive organs of a rabbit."

"No wonder they get odd ideas about sex."

Water snail 'clue' to woman's killing

A tiny water snail found embedded in the shoe of a man accused of murder is a vital part of the evidence against him, a jury at Stafford Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Jeffrey Mottram, aged 32, of Curzon Place, Rugeley, Staffordshire, is accused of strangling Mrs Martha Stevens, whose half-clothed body was found in a stream.

Mr Anthony Palmer, QC, for the prosecution, told the jury that the Crown would be calling a zoologist from the Natural History Museum in London to show that Mr Mottram could have picked up the snail only from the stream.

The prosecution claims that Mrs Stevens, aged 38, of Frank Close, Rugeley, had been drinking with Mottram and they were seen

straggling together towards the stream. Her body was found the next morning.

Earlier Mottram had been trying to kiss Mrs Stevens in a public house. "He had had a great deal to drink and was sexually interested in her."

The jury were told that Mrs Stevens had been beaten across the face and head before she was strangled and dumped in the water.

A bloodstained man's watch, which the prosecution says belonged to Mr Mottram, was found near by.

Mr Mottram was arrested three days later after detectives spotted him crouching in his garden. He admitted he had been drinking with Mrs Stevens but said he left the public house alone.

The trial continues today.

Waldorf wins libel damages

Mr Stephen Waldorf, who was mistakenly shot by police hunting David Martin, a dangerous criminal, won "substantial" libel damages in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Frank Carter, former Flying Squad chief, had wrongly alleged in his book *The Sharp End* that Mr Waldorf was a friend of Martin.

Mr Geoffrey Shaw, Mr Waldorf's counsel, said: "This was not true they had never even met."

● Police Constable Edward Thomas won "substantial" libel damages from the magazine *Private Eye* over an accusation in October 1987 of a serious breach of duty regarding a prosecution for assault.

● Mr Kenneth Aldous, a former prison officer at Long Lartin Prison, Worcestershire, won "substantial" libel damages over allegations in *The Sun* of extorting money from prisoners.

Pilot injured

An investigation was launched into how a microlight aircraft with a trainee pilot at the controls crash-landed in Hucknall in Nottinghamshire. The pilot broke both legs.

Book dropped

Brought to Light, a book about the CIA in Central America, has been withdrawn from sale by WH Smith because it shows how to make petrol bombs.

Ferry jobs

Over 300 jobs will be created at Poole, Dorset, when a new ferry service to Bilbao in northern Spain starts in April.

Camera check

Automatic video cameras are to be used for the first time to monitor motorists "jumping" hazard lights warning at a level crossing. The cameras will record car number plates at the crossing in Colwick, Nottinghamshire.

Two accused of murder

Couple 'killed by grandson'

A teenager murdered his grandparents in their beds as he burgled their home for a few hundred pounds, a court heard yesterday.

Mr Mark Haspell, aged 18, and his friend, Mr Mark Wainwright, aged 22, battered and strangled Mr Bill Haspell, aged 76, and suffocated his wife, Lorna, aged 71, two days after visiting them for a cup of tea, Mr Martin Thomas, QC, for the prosecution, said.

Mr Haspell, of Winsford, Cheshire, and Mr Wainwright, also of Winsford, deny murdering Mr and Mrs Haspell at their home in Whitley Avenue, Barnton, near Northwich, Cheshire, on February 28 last year.

Mr Thomas told Mold Crown Court: "Mr Haspell was beaten over the head with a wooden stick and strangled. When he was dead, his wife was attacked in her room

and she, too, was smothered.

"The particular horror of this case is that the person who did the smothering was their grandson."

Mr Thomas said the motive had been to steal meagre bits and pieces of jewellery, worth £271.50, and the few hundred pounds in cash that were kept in the house.

On Sunday, February 26, two days before the murder, the two men had visited the couple and had a cup of tea at their house.

The plan to burglar the grandparents' home had been formulated either just before or immediately after the visit, Mr Thomas said. The men had bought a glass cutter from a DIY store and brought in a friend so that they could use his car.

On the night of the murder, they had parked outside a pub half a mile from the house. The friend remained in the car

while Haspell and Wainwright broke into the house.

Mr Thomas said Mr Haspell, a retired river pilot, was later found lying in his bed with severe head wounds and there were splashes of blood on the wall. The injuries were caused by a wooden draught excluder, he said.

Mr Haspell suffered two severe blows to the head, others consistent with being punched, a two-inch cut to the side of his head, and a pattern of blood across his mouth consistent with having been struck by a gloved hand. He had been suffocated.

Mr Thomas said Mrs Haspell was found dead in her bed. She had been smothered. The ribbed pattern of Mr Haspell's gloves, later recovered from a canal, was consistent with blood stains found on the victims' mouths.

The case is expected to last for more than a week.

Aston Martin is quickest off the marque

SALEROOM

John Shaw

A classic Aston Martin DB4 GT Zagato which has "grown old gracefully" since its racing days in the early sixties is expected to make over £1.5 million at auction at Castle Donington, Leicestershire, on February 8.

The car, "1 VEV", and its sister "2 VEV", were the best known of only 19 Zagato two-door coupes built by Aston Martin. They were special lightweight competition cars and belonged to John Ogier's private Essex racing stable team, which specialized in running factory-supported Astons for some of the finest drivers of the period.

The Aston Martin is being sold by Mr Robert Brooks, a former Christie's car specialist who has his own car auction house. He was to have sold "2 VEV" last autumn, "but the

"The rear arches were flared to take wider wheels, but apart from that it has grown old gracefully in his garage," Mr Brooks said.

"When he came to us we suggested some minor restoration. The rear arches had been put back, but there is very little new aluminium. It was a superb car and has retained its original body and block. It has an excellent provenance and represents a special part of British motor racing history in the GT field."

Mr Brooks sold 40 classic cars for £7.1 million at his inaugural sale at the Earls Court Motor Fair last October, which he claims was the most realized at an auction of its type in Britain.

He is offering three Aston Martins among 45 cars, which are expected to make more

than £3 million altogether. The Aston marque has become a market leader in the classic car field.

One of the others offered by Mr Brooks is a 1956 DBSS, one of only 19 fixed-head coupes built. The first owner was the late Max Aitken, son of Lord Beaverbrook and a keen driver. The estimate is £600,000-£800,000.

Mr Brooks is also selling a 1961 DB4GT, styled by Touring of Milan, which is one of only 75 made by the David Brown company. Its estimate is £340,000-£380,000. The sale includes a 1927 Austin super-sports (estimate £18,000-£22,000), a 1960 Austin Healey "Sebring" Sprite, which carries an estimate of £25,000-£35,000, and a 20hp Rolls-Royce, expected to fetch £50,000-£60,000.

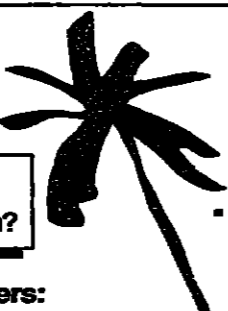
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The Nature of Diseases

As we approach the 21st Century, humanity is plunging deeper and deeper into crisis. Though the door is opening to an age of supercomputers, super conductors, robots, and new medical solutions for terrible diseases, yet we are still unable to deal with our minds. No external technology can control surging emotions, imaginations and lack of mental control. No alcohol, tobacco or other mind-altering drugs can overcome mental weakness and bring real peace. They destroy not only the bodies and minds of the users, but also those of their offspring, creating genetic disturbances and unbalancing the mental vibration. Real peace comes only to those who can control the body and mind with proper self-discipline. Ancient sages created the great yoga science which is very important to practise at this stage of man's evolution.

The purpose of the practice of Yoga is to give your life a boost, to put your physical, mental and spiritual progress in first gear. Then you may go into second gear, and maybe third gear where you can cruise comfortably along climbing the hills. This is unlike most worldly people who just coast downhill without knowing about the brakes, thinking that happiness is somewhere down there waiting. They go straight down hill, faster and faster into numerous disasters such as cancer, AIDS, high blood pressure, heart trouble etc. Soon it is too late and they crash. So even though it may seem very easy, please don't coast down hill. Yoga will show you another way. Happiness and peace is only possible through self-discipline and self-mastery.

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Solicitors propose new law to reduce county court delays

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society and the National Consumer Council want new laws imposing minimum standards on the county courts in England and Wales, where delays have reached a "crisis level".

The two bodies are backing a new clause to the courts and legal services Bill, which starts its committee stage in the Lords today, aimed at ensuring minimum standards of service in those courts.

They also want court officials' mistakes to be subject to scrutiny by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman).

The state of the county courts is, in addition, being raised by the Bar, which is to press for an amendment providing that the Lord Chief Justice, as well as the Lord Chancellor, is satisfied that court arrangements are adequate.

There is widespread criticism of the delays in the county courts which are struggling with big workloads and acute staff shortages.

In a briefing paper to peers the Law Society, which represents solicitors, says: "The major problem with the civil courts is that serious under-

standing has led to unacceptable delays in the county courts." The delays affect the time taken before a court hearing can be arranged, and the issuing of summonses and other court orders, processing bills and replying to letters.

"This crisis threatens to imperil the Lord Chancellor's policy of transferring more work to the county courts," the Law Society says.

The crisis is unnecessary, it adds. The county courts already make a substantial profit: court fees exceeded running costs by £6 million last year, and court users would prefer to pay slightly more for a reasonable service than the present level for a poor service, it says.

Under the society's proposed new clause the Lord Chancellor would have to set court staffing levels sufficient to meet agreed standards of performance; court fees would be set at the level needed to meet the costs involved.

"Since the costs would be covered by court fees, it would cost the taxpayer nothing," the society says.

The National Consumer Council (NCC) says the move

would be an important first step for the courts towards "executive agency" status. In its own briefing papers to peers it says: "All money raised through fees should be spent on the court service."

Both bodies also want people who are the victims of mistakes by court officials to have better redress through being able to complain to the Ombudsman. The Lord Chancellor's Department has always rejected the view that the Ombudsman's remit includes court officials.

The NCC, with the support of the Law Society and National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, is also pressing for the county courts to be given power to hear disputes on homelessness. It is promoting an amendment to allow county courts to hear challenges by the homeless to local authority decisions.

Councils "get away with poor decision-making because vulnerable homeless people find it difficult to bring High Court actions for judicial review," the NCC says. Applications in county courts would be a step to cheaper, more accessible appeals.

Cellist marks end of search for sponsor

MARC ASPLAND

by Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent



Alexander Baillie plays the Guarnerius cello, valued at about £200,000, on loan for his life.

A brilliant young cellist will today demonstrate the £200,000 instrument lent to him for life after a two-year search for a sponsor.

Alexander Baillie will perform works by Beethoven, Brahms and Britten on the instrument made by Joseph Guarnerius at the Wigmore Hall in London.

It has been lent to Mr Baillie by an anonymous millionaire Wall Street broker. "It is a dream come true," he said, "I no longer have to struggle with a double mortgage."

The concert marks the end of an exhausting search for a friendly bank manager or sponsor to help him out. Like hundreds of professional musicians, he had insufficient cash to buy a cello of the suitable quality to match his skills, as musical instrument prices have soared.

He produced a press release which asked: "Would you like to invest in a magnificent Guarnerius cello?"

It promised that whoever bought shares could expect a 22 per cent minimum yearly growth in value, as well as "recognition" for those who wanted it in the form of publicity in the media.

At first the play appeared to fail. Bank managers refused to lend on musical instruments and investors did not have the necessary nerve.

Meanwhile, what Mr Baillie calls the "brain drain" abroad of top-quality instruments

continued, with investors storing the instruments in bank vaults. A Guarnerius, by Joseph's son, which Mr Baillie himself originally hoped to buy, was sold to Switzerland.

However, then the second cello came on the market and the offer from the anonymous sponsor.

According to Mr Charles Beare, the dealer who has acted as agent for both instruments, the one Mr Baillie is using is the better, made in Cremona around 1700. Its tone, he said, is "mellow yet powerful".

Mr Beare's father had sold it in the 1950s to a doctor who

Why is it banks will not lend for these instruments?

played it as a hobby before his death three years ago. The new arrangement, he said, was "wonderful" because Mr Baillie had got the use of the cello "and the man who bought it has got a useful investment".

Despite his delight in the outcome of his quest, Mr Baillie is still campaigning fiercely for more support for musicians in Britain.

"Why is it that our country remains the only one in the Western world where the main banks are not sufficiently convinced of the value of these instruments to grant loans to enable musicians to buy them?" he asks.

Language lessons 'a waste of time'

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Schools are wasting time by giving lessons to encourage children to learn a foreign language, according to a report published by the schools' inspectors yesterday. Some may even damage children's ability to learn a language.

The inspectors say some language awareness courses gave a "watered down and fragmented experience of language learning which severely compromised standards of achievement in the first two or three years of the secondary school".

Some of the 36 secondary schools visited by the inspectors showed some benefits, but the inspectors say these were generally too slight to justify the time spent on the course.

"Many were superficial and had no clear rationale for developing the pupils' understanding of language."

The inspectors say there is no evidence that the lessons, introduced in the early 1980s and now run in about 10 per cent of secondary schools, actually encourage children to

learn a foreign language. They say: "The pace and style of the foreign language lessons in the schools which taught language awareness were not distinctive in any way."

The present form of the courses is likely to be abandoned as the lessons become part of the national curriculum, which insists that every pupil between 11 and 16 must learn a foreign language.

The problem seems to be worse in rural schools where, the inspectors say, pupils had "little or no knowledge of the range of languages spoken in Britain or the world".

Children were also let down by "weaknesses in the teacher's own knowledge". Just under a third of the lessons were considered to be poor or unsatisfactory; some were dull and took place in a restless atmosphere.

A *Survey of Language Awareness and Foreign Language Teacher Courses*, by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools (Department of Education and Science, Honeywell Lane, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 1AZ; free).

Another bridge fall as council acts

By Peter Davenport

Police were last night investigating the death of another victim of a bridge in the seaside town of Scarborough which has claimed 47 lives in the past 20 years, four of them this month.

The body of an unidentified woman, aged about 35, was found in the road below Valley Bridge in Scarborough yesterday, the day that officials of the local council, criticized by a coroner for failing to make the bridge safe, published proposals to prevent more deaths.

Mr John Trebble, chief executive of Scarborough Borough Council, North Yorkshire, had earlier announced plans for a safety barrier and for the erection of a temporary network of scaffolding and netting in the meantime.

The plans are to be discussed by the environmental health and control committee later this week.

The 80ft bridge, which

crosses a main road near the seafront, is a favourite spot for suicides, although some of the 47 deaths were accidental. Earlier this month, there were three deaths: a girl aged 17 fell from a rope strung under the bridge during a birthday party and a man aged 23 fell from the bridge with his daughter, aged two.

Mr Michael Oakley, the coroner, criticized the council for the lack of safety measures at the inquests on Mr Stephen Jeffery, a British Rail trackman, and his daughter, Kelly Ann Wilkinson. He had written to the council expressing his concern last year.

The proposed safety barrier consists of a steel "basket" slung under the bridge. It will have curved railings to prevent anyone caught in the net from throwing themselves out again. The scheme will cost about £80,000.

The council is also to spend £4,000 on new railings.

Welsh television actor faces murder charge

Clive Roberts, an actor in the Welsh language soap opera *Pobol y Cwm* on S4C television, was accused of murder yesterday.

Mr Roberts, aged 45, was charged at Caernarvon crown court, Gwynedd, with the murder of Miss Elinor Roberts, aged 34, a television production assistant with whom he lived.

He denied the charge. Mr Gareth Williams, QC, for the prosecution, said the jury might be satisfied that Mr Roberts had been an alcoholic for some years. On the night last March that Miss Roberts died, the couple had returned to the home they shared at Llan Ffynnon, Port Dinorwic, near Bangor, after visiting a public house and a club in the village.

Later a woman neighbour had heard raised voices,

thumping, and a woman shouting, screaming and crying in Welsh: "Don't hit me."

Mr Williams said: "The prosecution say the sound of thumping was the defendant killing Elinor Roberts, striking her repeatedly with a chair or parts of it."

Mr Williams said that three hours later, Mr Roberts called an ambulance and was alleged to have told an ambulance man: "She came home last night and she had been fighting". Mr Williams said: "That is not true. She had not been fighting."

He said a pathologist would testify that some injuries were consistent with her being struck with a blunt instrument such as part of the chair, and others with kicks and the use of a knife.

The case continues today.

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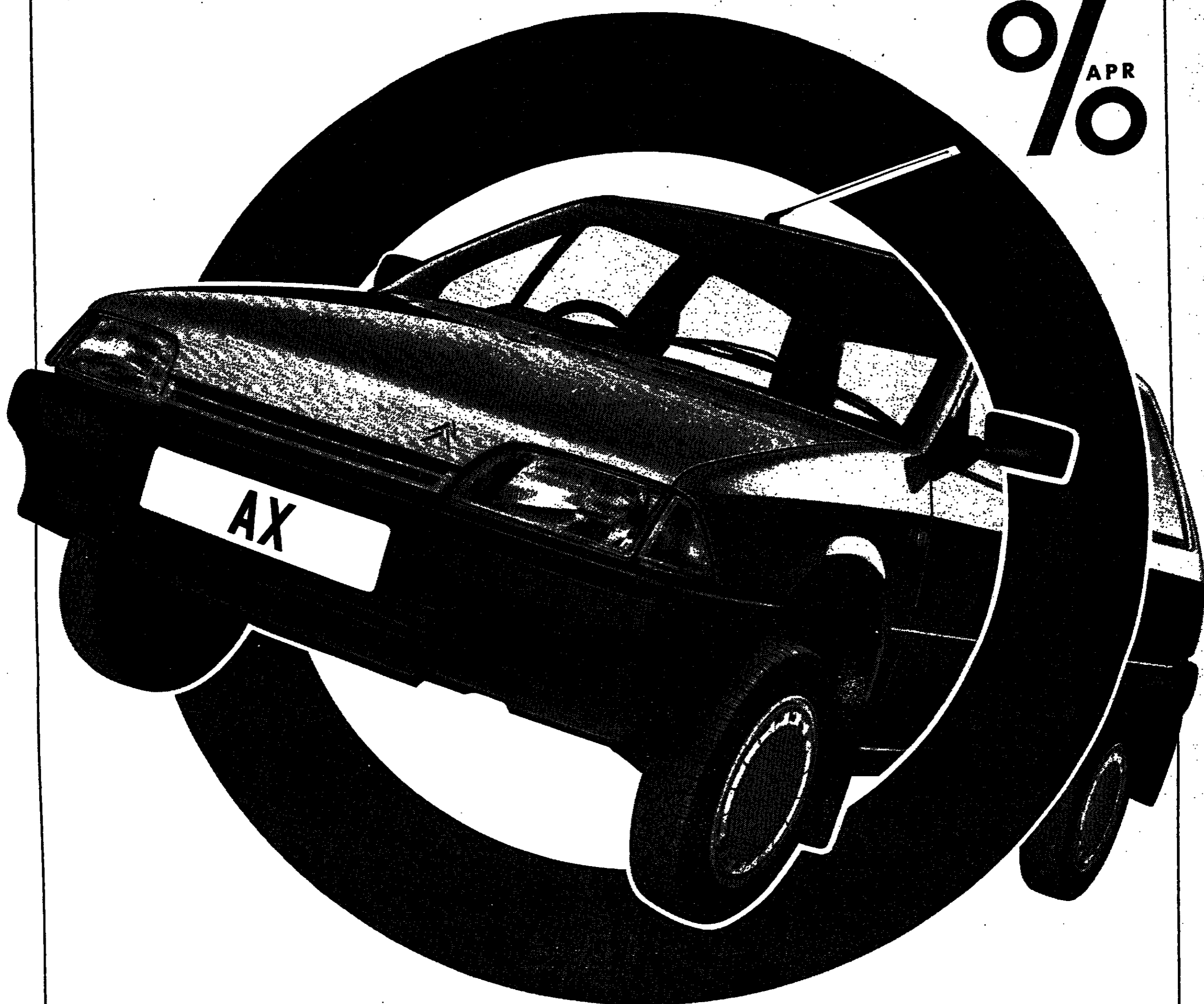
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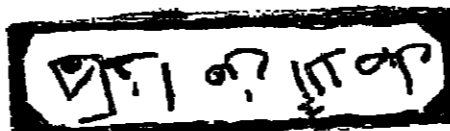
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Inquiry sought into claims of assaults against boat people

From Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor, Hong Kong

Amnesty International yesterday demanded an impartial inquiry into claims that Vietnamese boat people seeking asylum in Hong Kong had been beaten, kicked, seized by the throat and confined to metal "punishment cells".

With 17 other human rights and religious groups, Amnesty strongly criticized the British and Hong Kong governments over their policy of compulsory repatriation of the boat people. But Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, on the third day of his visit to Hong Kong, also faced demands for the policy to be continued or toughened.

In a memorandum to the two governments, Amnesty said there were "critical shortcomings" in the screening process to decide which boat people qualify as refugees and which should be sent back.

It called for an impartial investigation into "a continuing pattern of incidents where police and other officers have allegedly assaulted, detained asylum-seekers and intimidated victims and witnesses".

Mr Hurd will today see interviews in progress at Hei Ling Chau detention centre where, according to Amnesty, 100 asylum-seekers were beaten or kicked by Correctional Services Department personnel in July, 1988.

It said that an internal inquiry had found no evidence, but a later independent investigation had concluded that unnecessary force had

been used. Amnesty added that in another incident asylum-seekers were seized by the throat and their noses and mouths squeezed shut.

It also expressed concern about "punishment cells" consisting of sub-divided metal cargo containers with no electricity, plumbing or furniture.

It reiterated previous appeals to the Government to stop the policy. Mr Hurd said he had not read the report.

Mr Geoffrey Barnes, Hong Kong's Secretary for Security, described the Amnesty criticisms as "unfounded". He said the Hong Kong Government was committed to operating the screening process fairly and the Vietnamese were given the benefit of any doubt. He also denied allegations that police or Correctional Services Department staff had ill-treated inmates.

The organization repeated previous criticisms that the boat people received no legal advice when interviewed and were not allowed to attend subsequent appeal hearings. It said six "legal monitors" from the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees were able to monitor only a small proportion of the 400 screening interviews carried out each week.

In another move, a group of lawyers, including two Americans, a Briton and about 40 from Hong Kong, is to seek a judicial review of the screening process.

As Mr Hurd arrived last

New battle for Cambodia begins in Paris



Cambodian guerrillas clamber over a Soviet-built tank as they celebrate the fall of Pnom, a north-west town, where they will set up their own independent administration. At the same time in Paris, the five permanent members of the UN Security Council yesterday began their conference on the future of Cambodia (Philip Jacobson writes).

Security Council's permanent members had "particular responsibilities" for trying to maintain peace in the world. Some of those present, he noted, could exercise "an important influence" over the protagonists — a clear reference to the military and diplomatic backing of the Soviet Union and the Chinese for opposing factions in Cambodia.

The main focus of discussions is expected to be on the so-called "Evans plan", put forward by Australia last November following the collapse of the 19-nation Cambodia conference held in Paris in August. This sets out

a framework under which the UN would assume responsibility for running Cambodia pending supervised elections.

There have recently been slight but significant indications that even the most stubborn parties here are moving towards acceptance of the Evans formula. One reflection of that shift can be found in an open letter addressed by Prince Norodom Siha-nouk, leader of one of the guerrilla factions, to "the free world powers who are preparing to abandon support for the Cambodian resistance".

The big powers should concentrate

Ankara disrupted by smog

Ankara (Reuters) — Schools closed, flights were delayed and industries causing pollution reduced operations as smog enveloped Ankara. Visibility at the airport was down to 100 yards, and health authorities ordered smoke-belching factories "hazardous to public health" to operate at 50 per cent of capacity.

Cyprus talks

Nicosia (Reuters) — Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish-Cypriot leader, has bowed to American pressure and accepted a UN invitation to New York for fresh talks about reuniting Cyprus.

Wrong target

Windhoek (Reuters) — An Angolan fighter aircraft bombed a village in northern Namibia after the pilot apparently mistook it for an Angolan rebel base. No one was hurt, police said.

Runcie visit

Islamabad (AP) — Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, is to arrive for his first visit to Pakistan, a predominantly Muslim country, on February 2.

Miners die

Warsaw (Reuters) — Two miners injured in a gas explosion last week in Poland's deepest coal mine have died in hospital from severe burns, raising to 10 the number killed.

Pope has flu

Rome (Reuters) — The Pope has the virulent strain of influenza that hit Europe more than a month ago and has cancelled his forthcoming engagements.

Robbery blast

Bologna (Reuters) — At least 23 people were injured by an explosion at Bologna's central post office during an armed robbery by two masked men.

Shamir's plan for occupied lands

Setback to US peace hopes

From Richard Owen, Jerusalem

America yesterday accused Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, of setting back the chances for peace in the Middle East, while his Labour coalition partners claimed that his Likud party was trying to use the growing influx of Soviet bloc Jews to create a "Greater Israel".

Both charges arise out of Mr Shamir's statement that Israel must hold on to the occupied Arab territories of the West Bank and Gaza to provide space to house Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union and other parts of Eastern Europe.

But an unrepentant Mr Shamir insisted that an Israeli withdrawal was ruled out "because we need the space to house all these people". Israel would be "bigger, better and stronger" because of immigration, he said.

Some observers say that the

new immigration, or *aliya*, is undermining the "demographic argument" advanced by the left that, if Israel annexes the West Bank and Gaza, Israeli Jews would be outnumbered by Arabs in an expanded Jewish state.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Deputy Prime Minister and Labour leader, yesterday denounced Mr Shamir's statement. "We need *aliya* for the sake of *aliya*, not to solve any other problem," he said, adding that the new arrivals should strengthen the existing Jewish state and help to make peace with the Palestinians.

It is too early to say how many of the one million or so Soviet bloc Jews expected here over the next three to five years will settle in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Absorption Ministry says the numbers who have chosen to do so are so far

"insignificant"; many Russian immigrants prefer urban living to the rural life of the Jewish settlements.

Mr Peres said the democratization of Eastern Europe would lead to the downfall of Arab dictators as the Arab peoples came to imitate the uprisings there. But Mr Shamir, speaking to Likud veterans, went further, saying that the Arabs were "in a mood of defeat, stricken with fear".

He said: "They see the success of Zionism, and have no answer to it, no cure," adding that the new Soviet immigrants would alter the state of Israel out of all recognition within five to 10 years, and would make a Palestinian state unrealistic.

The new *aliya* was "one of those miracles which have always rescued the Jewish people," Mr Shamir declared.

Bank threatens to reveal CIA links with Noriega

From Charles Bremner, New York

The legal tangle around the prosecution of General Manuel Noriega thickened yesterday with word that lawyers for an international bank charged with money-laundering were threatening to reveal details of payments by the US Government to the former Panamanian leader.

The lawyers for the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, whose executives go on trial today in Florida, say they will argue that millions of dollars in the general's accounts came not from drug trafficking but from secret payments by the Central Intelligence Agency and other US bodies.

The bank, which is owned by interests in the Middle East and based in Luxembourg, last year became the first bank to be charged in the US with conspiring to aid drug trafficking through the manipulation

of secret accounts. General Noriega was not mentioned in the initial indictment, which stemmed from an undercover operation carried out by US agents in Panama and the US.

Prosecutors have since gathered documents which show that the general controlled some \$23 million (£13.7 million) of personal and government accounts at various branches of the bank, including the ones in Panama, London, Hamburg, Luxembourg and Switzerland.

The bank's lawyers have accused the Government prosecutors of entrapping its executives through "outrageous" conduct.

In court papers obtained by *The New York Times* yesterday, the lawyers said that, if the prosecutors persisted in interjecting General Noriega into the case, they would seek secret government files to

"demonstrate that much of the money in the accounts in question came from US Government agencies, not drug transactions".

If they fail in their current attempts to prove that the US courts have no jurisdiction over the general, his lawyers are expected to play heavily on his 20-year-long record as a CIA "asset", a function for which he was paid at least hundreds of thousands of US government dollars.

According to legal experts, the issue may jeopardize the indictment, which revolves around the general's dealings with the traffickers of the Medellín cocaine cartel.

The judge in Miami has ordered that the lawyers involved on both sides must remain publicly silent about the classified files that are at the centre of the preliminary legal wrangling.

Heroes of ANC fly to Zambia

By Jan Raath

Eight senior members of the African National Congress, recently released from South African prisons, arrived in Lusaka, Zambia, yesterday for a week of talks with the party's externally based leaders, the first in a quarter of a century.

Mr Walter Sisulu, the former secretary-general of the ANC, said in Johannesburg shortly before he left that "the whole world is waiting" for the meeting, expected to presage negotiations between the ANC and Pretoria and transform the campaign for majority rule in South Africa.

In a surprise move last month, the Government granted passports to the eight, six of whom were imprisoned in 1962 for plotting the overthrow of the white Government.

Absent from the group is Nelson Mandela, the ANC leader who was jailed for life at the Rivonia trial with Mr Sisulu and his colleagues, but whose expected release soon from the Victor Verster prison outside Cape Town will probably take up much of the debate when the emotional reunions in Lusaka are over.

While the external leadership has held scores of meetings in the past two years with black and white South Africans, it is the first chance internal and external leaders have had to plan strategy for an end to apartheid.

As Mr Oliver Tambo, the current president, is being treated in a Swedish hospital for a "brain spasm", ANC sources are looking to Mandela as the man most likely to provide the unifying force it desperately needs.

JOHANNESBURG: Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, the Coloured (mixed-race) policeman who accused white riot squad members of acting like "wild dogs", is to be prosecuted under the state of emergency regulations.

Boston family used racial fears to cover up wife-killing

From Peter Stothard, US Editor, Washington



Family support: Matthew Stuart and his father, Charles Stuart Sr.

Family and friends of Boston wife-killer Charles Stuart have been revealed as implicated in the crime which continues to shock a murder-hardened America.

As a grand jury begins to sift evidence for possible charges, new information has come to light about how the Stuart family helped both in the crime itself and in the cover-up plot which for 10 weeks blamed a "black assassin".

The family's lawyers have admitted that three brothers, two sisters, their spouses, friends and colleagues, either took part in the plot or withheld information about it.

Mr Matthew Stuart helped Charles by taking the murder weapon and other evidence from the scene of the crime in the black Mission Hill area of Boston. Another brother, Michael, had been asked by Charles for help in the plot some weeks before. A close friend,

Mr David MacLean, said that Charles Stuart had asked him for help in killing his wife, who was seven months pregnant.

Despite these grounds for suspicion, the Stuaarts allowed police to comb Mission Hill for the killer, leaving a trail of racial bitterness.

The city's police, press and public had been deceived by Charles "Chuck" Stuart's story of how a black gunman had shot him and his pregnant wife as they left a prenatal class. Only when Stuart committed suicide by jumping off a Boston bridge did the truth come out.

Matthew had gone to the police, it emerged, after his brother identified Mr Eddie Bennett, a habitual black criminal, as the killer.

Carol's brother, Mr Carl DiMaiti, has described how the Stuaarts paid a visit of condolence after the crime. "Can you believe that they came over to comfort my parents? It is just mind-boggling that they should allow us to visit Chuck, to cry over him and pray for his recovery," Both Michael and Matthew Stuart were pallbearers for Carol. A business friend, who was hoping to start a restaurant with Charles Stuart, read the message from hospital in which the stricken husband affected to call on God's forgiveness for the killer.

The restaurant was to be financed by the proceeds of Carol's life-insurance policies.

The new focus on the "crimes of the Stuaarts" marks a new phase in the affair. Although press and politicians accept that they were too ready to jump to the conclusion that "a nigger pulled the trigger", they are beginning to feel that their breast-beating on the charges of institutional racism may have gone too far.

It is time, according to Dr Robert Coles, a Harvard psychiatrist, to turn away from Boston's history of racial tension and to look at Stuart's special anti-social personality and family background.

"In most psychopaths there is cruelty and callousness," Dr Coles said, "but Stuart outdoes that."

Charles Stuart, the \$100,000-a-year (£60,000-a-year) manager of an exclusive city shop, had come a long way from his training days as a fast food chef, and his father's life as a barman and insurance salesman.

His own business was due to be the next stage in the rise of a son of blue-collar Boston. But his prosperity depended also on Carol's earnings as a lawyer. He is said to have feared that, after the birth of their child, she would not want to return to work. Moreover, the cost of parenthood would destroy his hopes of further social and financial betterment.

To Bostonians, and increasingly throughout the US as the Stuart story spreads, the motive appears a ghastly perversion of the American dream. The almost successful cover-up shed an unwelcome light on the city's racial assumptions and clan-nish traditions of secrecy.

Martin Luther King has his day but the Klan goes marching on

From Susan Elliott, Pulaski, Tennessee

Set in the rolling hills of southern Tennessee, 18 miles from Nashville, the small town of Pulaski does not look like a place that would attract trouble.

Unmarked roads from Alabama meander through auburn woods past trailer homes and pick-up trucks. Roadside stalls offer hearty fare — fried peach pies, toasted corn and blackened catfish.

The road widens, passes a school and twists steeply past Jim's Diner, a stone Baptist church, a few restaurants and runs into the main square.

However, the image of film-set Dixie-land stops here. Pulaski is the birthplace of the Ku Klux Klan. Beneath the courthouse and white clock tower in the square, a crowd of about 300 Klansmen and skinheads gathered last weekend with other white supremacists to protest against the observance in most US states yesterday of the annual holiday in honour of Martin Luther King, the murdered black civil rights leader.

The Klan, dressed in robes of purple, gold, green and white, and wearing their trademark conical hats, explained the significance of the colours, which change according to rank in the secret organiza-

tion. Mr Keith Smith, whose large stomach filled his gold robe, said he was an Imperial Wizard. A man dressed in green, smoking a cigarette, introduced himself as a Grand Dragon. A muscular Klansman clad in black with a red cape grunted that he was "security".

The groups were virtually outnumbered by the police, reporters and television cameras. They played up to it.

One six-year-old boy in a Nazi-style salute as he brandished a Confederate battle flag — a symbol of rebellion — in his other hand. His mother screamed for him to hold still for the photographer.

Klan parents dressed in white stood with their children, who wore similar outfits.

For all the jokes that were made about the "cone heads" and their "sheets", there was a sinister element to the gathering. A dozen police guards were parked at the square. The officers were armed, some carrying wooden truncheons 3ft long. State intelligence officials monitored the gathering as a police helicopter circled overhead.

On a side-street, at the Pulaski Bakery, a black waitress and cook looked nervous as several robed Klan supporters ordered coffee and rolls. Although

there were no arrests in Pulaski, the townspeople, usually noted for their Southern hospitality and easy-going ways, have had enough. Klan members have assembled in their town since 1915 and for the past four years have gathered at least once a year to celebrate a "homecoming". In recent years they

Coretta's dream

Athens (Reuters) — Mrs Coretta Scott King, speaking from the pulpit of her assassinated husband, Martin Luther King, announced plans for a world alliance of "non-violent" activist movements to fight for democracy and to end militarism, poverty and apartheid. In her annual "State of the Dream" address on continuing the black leader's work, she urged President Bush to divert a large part of the military budget to fight poverty, unemployment and hunger.

have been joined by the more violent skinheads, who base their appearance on British groups and other white supremacist organizations.

Town leaders say that Pulaski's image has become so bad that businesses do not wish to invest in the area and the town's economy is suffering. In an attempt to

quash the Klan's activity, a local judge last week forbade the Klan to march last Saturday in protest against the holiday. The judge cited a rule allowing only one parade per day. A newly formed group, Giles Countians Unite, which promotes racial harmony, had asked first.

The Klan was further riled that someone in the town had removed a plaque commemorating the founding of the organization in a Pulaski hotel in 1865 and re-nailed it to the wall of the building face down. Pastor Thom Robb, the national director of the Klan, accused the town of trying to get smart and vowed to march once a month for the next five months, starting on February 3.

Some Klan-watchers doubt that the group has the membership and resources to stage more frequent gatherings. Some white supremacists at the weekend had driven for up to 12 hours from their homes as far away as Chicago and Atlanta.

What is worrying, intelligence experts say, is that the racist groups seem to be gaining strength in pockets of the United States and some hard-core splinter groups seem to be forming. Before Christmas a wave of racially motivated bombings in the South raised specula-

tion that the Klan could be reviving its extremist activities.

Membership was estimated at three to five million in its heyday in the 1920s, but is now thought to be 5,000 to 7,000 at most. Some residents of Pulaski wonder if the judge's ban did not simply provide the Klan with more publicity than if it had been allowed to march. Townspeople are split as to how to deal with the group, although civic leaders argue that a policy of silence has not worked.

"We ignored them the first few years," said Mr George Martin, a tall man in his sixties who works for a local radio station. "But we found out the hard way. The crowd grew larger and last year a policeman had to pull his gun because a skinhead got hurt on the head with a rock."

Mr Martin is concerned that the town's population has not grown from 8,000 in the 40 years he has lived there. Businesses do not want to be in Pulaski, he says, because it is the home of the Klan.

Eventually, the Klan was given permission last weekend to march in the nearby town of Lawrenceburg — around the statue of Davy Crockett in the main square. As marchers yelled their "white power" slogans, one youth, aged 18, was

arrested for disturbing the peace when he waved an American flag and called out "Freedom for all".

The people of Lawrenceburg (population 15,000) seemed untroubled by the rally and some families turned out to watch the procession. One salesman joked that a regular Klan rally might improve business. "If we could have one of these every six months we would be on the map, now wouldn't we?" he said. "We don't have sheets," he joked. "Maybe we ought to have ... sold them at half price."

Although the presence of the Klan in the area is not thought to be large, local people tell of incidents of acquaintances who employ blacks being harassed. Shop and farm owners have received threatening telephone calls and recently a van was driven up to the front windows of one employer's house and its headlights were shone inside at full beam for 20 minutes.

Nobody knows for sure who was responsible but people who visit Pulaski admit they are frightened when they go there. "It's scary," said one young man who asked not to be named. "You go to a restaurant and you look at the people and you ask yourself: 'Is that one of them?'"

Bulgaria ends party's power monopoly

From Michael Hornsby, Sofia

Bulgaria yesterday became the latest country in Eastern Europe to end the Communist Party's constitutionally guaranteed monopoly of political power, the main legal obstacle to the emergence of a multi-party parliamentary democracy.

The National Assembly, Bulgaria's parliament, which voted for the move without a single dissenter, also agreed to set up a working committee on further amendments to the Constitution, including whether Bulgaria should continue to call itself a socialist republic.

The assembly vote was welcomed as an "important first step" by opposition groups which have emerged since Mr Todor Zhivkov, the country's Stalinist former ruler, was ousted by reformist Communists just over two months ago. But they cautioned that the Communist Party's grip on power was still far from broken.

"It is an historic day because some of the legal text giving power to the Communist Party has been dropped," Mr Peter Beron, leader of Ecoglasnost, one of the new groups, said. "It does not mean that the power of the Communist Party is finished, because it is based not on law but on weapons and seizure of

power." The assembly voted to abolish two of the three paragraphs of Article 1 of the Constitution which described the Communist Party as "the guiding force in society and the state" and as heading "the construction of an advanced socialist society".

The assembly vote came a day after more than 50,000 people had taken part in the biggest pro-democracy demonstration the country has seen, in front of Aleksandr Nevsky Cathedral, near the assembly.

Some speakers in the debate, led by Mrs Milena Stamboliska of the Agrarian Party, which was once a subservient ally of the Communists but is now showing signs of independence, proposed that Paragraph 1 should be replaced by a new clause referring to Bulgaria as a "democratic republic".

Other Agrarian deputies went further. One, Mr Aleksandr Dimitrov, declared: "There is no bourgeois or socialist democracy. There is only democracy." Another, Mr Zhelo Zamirikov, said: "Who asked the working class if it wanted the leading role in our country? If it had had the leading role, it would not have permitted the imprisonment of thousands of peasants in its name." But Communist Party



Mr Petar Mladenov, party First Secretary, and Mr Georgi Atanasov, the Prime Minister, at yesterday's Assembly session.

deputies opposed the immediate repeal of the whole of Article 1. An all-party working committee was eventually set up to draft a new definition of the Bulgarian state and to consider other constitutional amendments. In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Boiko Dimitrov, Bulgaria's Foreign Minister, said that he favoured retaining the reference to Bulgaria as a "socialist" state. "It is normal for coun-

tries to say what kind of state they are," he claimed.

"If necessary, this could be decided by a referendum. In any case, after free elections, the new parliament could adopt a completely new

Constitution." The new Communist leadership has promised free elections by the end of June and new laws permitting freedom of assembly and association are being prepared.

Soviet troop cut talks open in Czechoslovakia

From Peter Green, Prague

Czechoslovak and Soviet negotiators met here yesterday afternoon on the first of three days of talks to discuss a Czechoslovak demand that the Soviet Union should withdraw the 75,000 troops stationed in the country before the end of the year.

Moscow has kept its troops stationed in Czechoslovakia since they led an invasion by Warsaw Pact troops to crush the 1968 "Prague Spring".

Moscow has always claimed its troops intervened in 1968 at the Czechoslovak leaders' invitation, and the Czechoslovak call for the troops to go has removed all legitimacy from the Soviet presence.

The Soviet delegation to the talks, in the Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry, is led by Mr Ivan Pavlovich Aboimov, the Deputy Foreign Minister; the Czechoslovak delegation is led by Mr Evzen Vacek, his Prague counterpart.

According to the Prague Foreign Ministry, the Soviet delegation numbers about 22 members; the Czechoslovak delegation about 25.

Diplomatic sources in Prague say the Czechoslovaks may be aware of having put the Soviet negotiators in a tight spot with their withdrawal call, and they are expected to proceed more cautiously in the current negotiations, seeking a consensus that would permit the Soviet Union to save some face, if and when there is a withdrawal.

On Sunday more than 25,000 people demonstrated in Brno, the Moravian capital, calling for the closure of the Brno-Turany military airport. In the northern Moravian town of Pohorany, more than 6,000 people demonstrated on the same day, calling for Soviet troops to withdraw from their region and protesting against continued military construction there, the CTK news agency said.

The withdrawal of 300,000 Soviet troops from Eastern Europe is expected as part of an eventual Conventional Forces in Europe treaty, now the subject of talks between Nato and Warsaw Pact negotiators in Vienna.

Under President Gorbachev's 1988 proposal unilaterally to withdraw 50,000 troops from Europe, 5,000 Soviet troops are set to leave Czechoslovakia.

The Soviet Union is said to be anxious to link any withdrawal of its troops to the conventional forces talks, but the Czechoslovaks reject this.

"The standpoint of the Czech side is that the talks in Vienna are something completely different from these talks," a Foreign Ministry official said yesterday.

Western delegates to the Vienna talks told reporters that Moscow might in the end sacrifice much of its presence in Poland and Czechoslovakia in favour of keeping its troops in East Germany, which is strategically more important.

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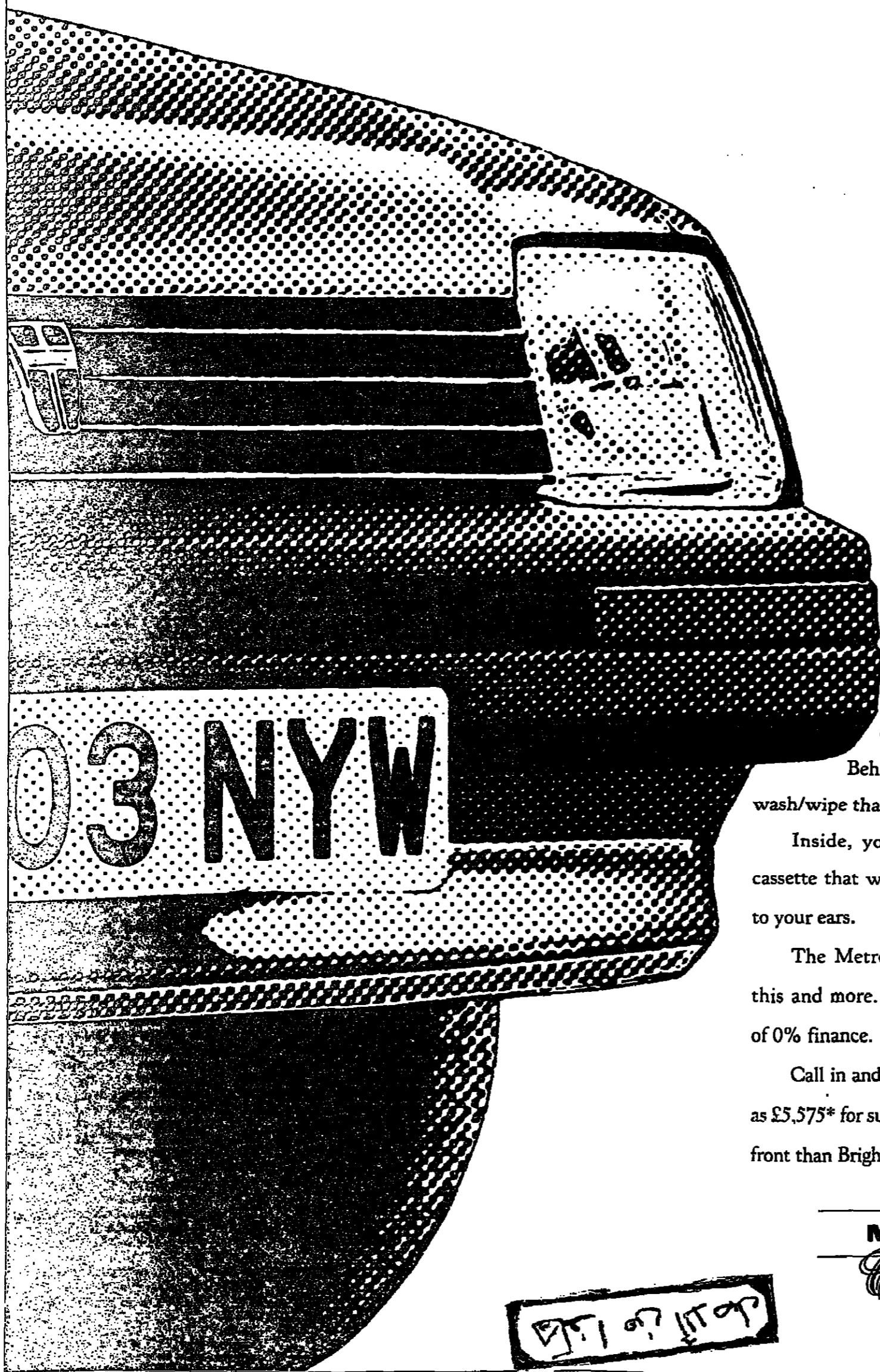
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Belgrade blamed for rumours by Albania

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade

The Albanian Communist leader, President Ramiz Alia, yesterday accused Yugoslavia of instigating a slanderous campaign against the Albanian regime and dismissed newspaper reports of demonstrations, executions and emergency measures as "sheer fantasy".

He told Albanians that vigilance, now as in the past, was the only guarantee that the designs of foreign enemies would not come true.

"We must keep our powder dry so that nobody ever finds us unprepared," he told the workers of the Car and Tractor Factory in Tirana.

It was the first reaction from the Albanian leadership since reports and rumours began to circulate about growing tension and unrest in Albania.

The Yugoslav media, Mr Alia said, were providing the world with stories about

demonstrations in Shkoder, about large numbers of people being killed and even that four students were hanged in connection with the unrest.

All these reports were released by Tanjug, the official Yugoslav news agency, which also claimed that emergency measures had been introduced following widespread unrest.

However, the Tanjug agency later retracted these reports but still continued to claim that something unusual was happening or about to happen in Albania.

A report in a Belgrade newspaper yesterday claimed that three Albanian frontier guards had fled to Yugoslavia and quoted one of them as saying that on the eve of reports about the demonstrations they had received orders to reinforce vigilance and that several soldiers and an officer were arrested.

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Dhaka ferry death toll of 170 feared

Dhaka — At least 170 holidaymakers were feared drowned when a crowded ferry and a cargo ship were in head-on collision 30 miles east of Dhaka, police and local officials said yesterday (Ahmed Fazl writes). State radio said scores were killed as the ferry broke in two in the middle of the Dhaleshwari river late on Sunday. Mr Rafikul Islam, a survivor, said the accident occurred as the ferry approached "a flotilla" of cargo ships in thick fog.

State radio said about 30 passengers were rescued by canoes and speedboats and at least 170 others were missing. Police said 45 bodies were recovered from the river as the authorities and close relatives of the victims mounted a night-long search for survivors. The radio said the ferry had been carrying an estimated 200 workers and their families returning to work after a weekend break.

British training role

Windhoek — Three middle-ranking British Army officers and an official of the Ministry of Defence began talks here yesterday on training an army for Namibia, which has not got one at present (Peter Kenny writes). The talks are at the request of Mr Sam Nujoma, who is expected to become President when the territory gains independence from South Africa this year. The head of the British Liaison Office, Mr Peter Wallis, said that they were going to have talks with South Africa's Administrator-General of the former German colony, Namibia's President-designate, and top United Nations officials. Mr Nujoma leads the South West Africa People's Organization, whose military wing fought for 23 years to end South Africa's control of Namibia.

Pakistan in waiting

Islamabad (Reuters) — Miss Benazir Bhutto will soon become the world's first Prime Minister to give birth while in office, but not even her closest advisers will admit to knowing when the child is due, for fear that it could give the opposition a chance to challenge her fragile Government. But while Pakistan waits, political analysts say the government machine is grinding to a standstill, with a series of tough decisions being put off until after "the birth". It is two months since Miss Bhutto's ministers resigned to allow opposition no-confidence motion. She asked them to stay on temporarily, but has made no move to make changes in a line-up that is widely regarded as short on talent.

Menem picks envoy

Buenos Aires (Reuters) — Argentina is so confident that diplomatic relations with Britain will soon be restored that it has already chosen its next ambassador, President Menem said yesterday. "I have already decided who will be optimistic," he told a news conference for foreign journalists, but he did not name the envoy. British and Argentine diplomats meet in Madrid next month to discuss a possible re-establishment of the formal ties which were broken when Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands in 1982.

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THE CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Lithuania rewards its independence champion

From Michael Binyon
Vilnius, Lithuania

Mr Algirdas Brazauskas, the leader of the breakaway Lithuanian Communist Party, was yesterday elected President of the republic's Parliament, a move that considerably strengthens his position and moves towards independence in advance of elections here next month.

A meeting of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet yesterday voted overwhelmingly to make him the titular head of Lithuania in the wake of the unexpected resignation of Mr Vytautas Astrauskas, until now the President of the Supreme Soviet.

The move reflects the enormous popularity of the man who has defied the Soviet Communist Party by his declaration of independence, and who opens the way to Lithuania's first multi-party elections, to be held on February 24. Opinion polls now give Mr Brazauskas's Communists — whose programme has become virtually that of a social democratic party — 73 per cent of the vote, an astonishing rise from 16 per cent six months ago.

The one-day meeting of the Supreme Soviet discussed President Gorbachev's visit here, but showed no signs of moder-



Mr Brazauskas: Election as President reflect his enormous popularity.

ating Lithuania's demand or slowing the march to independence. Indeed, the 141 deputies were expected to retract their earlier decision to continue allowing Soviet soldiers stationed in Lithuania to vote in local elections.

This would give Lithuanians important reassurance that Moscow would not be able to undermine any elections or prevent radical movements emerging

by sending in thousands of soldiers from other republics to vote against pro-independence candidates.

Mr Brazauskas told President Gorbachev bluntly last week that Lithuania was ready to remain within the Soviet Union for only another three or four years. Even then he made tough conditions: Moscow would have to restructure the Politburo to include the Lithuanian party leader and those of all other 14 republics; Lithuania should be allowed to open its own embassies in other countries; and the Chamber of Nationalities in the Supreme Soviet in Moscow should be reconstituted so that an equal number came from each republic, instead of the present division according to population.

This model, like the United States Senate, would give the small republics considerably more weight at the expense of Russia, the largest.

With less than six weeks until the election, Sajudis, the umbrella nationalist movement, and other embryo parties are having difficulty preparing for the multi-party vote. The Communist Party has split, and other independent candidates are grouping around parties proposed along the lines of their namesakes in the West: Christian Demo-

crats, Social Democrats, Centre Democrats and Greens.

There will be no party labels on the ballot forms, however, and so far the distinctions are blurred. Sajudis insists that it is a movement rather than a party, and will help candidates from various groups. It will not field anyone against Mr Brazauskas or other popular Communists supporting independence, the only real issue here.

Candidates will be allowed television time, unless they are nationalist extremists or others outside the permitted framework. A multi-party system has not been formally set up, though the

Communist Party decision to abolish Article Six of the Constitution guaranteeing its monopoly of power effectively legalized other parties, as it has in the other two Baltic republics.

Lithuanians see a number of political consequences of Mr Gorbachev's visit. Although they believe he will play for time, they see independence coming by stages. The first would regain local control of the economy, severing central direction from Moscow, and putting trade with the rest of the Soviet Union on a contract basis in rubles, much as in Finland. Eventually the rouble would be replaced by a convertible litas, the

currency during the 1920-1940 period of independence.

The second step would be to stop compulsory military service in the Soviet Army. A law would allow conscientious objection for political or religious reasons, which would effectively be used by everyone. Already tentative soundings have begun on this highly controversial measure with military officials in Moscow.

Finally the republic would move towards full political independence.

Not everyone here wants separation from Moscow, however. But among the Poles, Russians and Belorussians, who make up 20 per cent of the population, is some alarm. Anti-Sajudis rallies have been organized by a group called *Yedinstvo*, Russian for "unity".

With equivalent Russian-speaking movements in Latvia and Estonia, it wants to keep the Baltic states within the Soviet Union and maintain the traditional communist system.

There is worry about Russian reaction, but no real fear. People believe President Gorbachev himself supports their strivings. "We have forced *perestroika* to go further," one candidate said. "If it was not for us, the whole process would come to a stop."

Moscow MPs to visit Britain

Mr Vadim Medvedev, the Kremlin's ideology chief, is to visit Britain next month at the head of a delegation of Soviet parliamentarians (Michael Kuiper writes).

He is expected to have discussions with Mrs Thatcher, giving her a chance to discover the Soviet leadership's attitude towards the ethnic and secessionist issues threatening President Gorbachev's reform programme.

Mr Medvedev is leading a delegation

from the Soviet section of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. It was through such a visit in 1984 that Mrs Thatcher first met Mr Gorbachev and marked him out as someone with whom she felt she could do business.

Mr Medvedev is an economist by training and was at university with Mr Gorbachev. He is now one of the Soviet leader's closest political associates and has played a leading role in trying to resolve the crisis in Lithuania.

Bucharest retreats over poll date

From Christopher Walker
Bucharest

As Romania struggled to come to terms with the unfamiliar ground rules of democracy, it was announced by the ruling National Salvation Front yesterday that local press and television executives are to be sent to the West to study how free election campaigns are run, notably in the media.

The urgent study tours are to be undertaken amid growing pressure on the 145-strong Front to postpone the initial date of late April set for the elections.

Mr Aurel Munteanu, the official spokesman, said that although he was opposed to such a change "postponement might happen, if the political forces ask for it".

He denied previous suggestions by other Front leaders that postponement of the poll had been agreed in principle. His remarks followed threats by fledgling opposition parties of a general strike and boycott if the elections are not delayed until they have had time to organize properly.

Mr Munteanu, who heads Romanian television and radio, was speaking at a weekly briefing which demonstrated how little grasp the new Government has of the workings of democratic rule. He denied that this inexperience would affect its ability to stage an orderly referendum on the future of the Communist Party and capital punishment on January 28.

Mr Munteanu appeared embarrassed over the chaotic scenes last Friday night, shown live on TV, when leaders of the Front bowed to mob pressure to outlaw the party, only to reverse that decision 24 hours later and announce the question would be put to a national vote.

"Everybody in this country has to learn about democracy, even the Government," he said. "We do not really yet have statesmen and politicians in this country. Like everyone else, they first have to learn the process of democracy."

Mr Munteanu denied a claim that Mr Pyotr Lush-



With his people: The Rev Laszlo Tokes, whose defiant sermons sparked off the Romanian revolution, returns to the pulpit.

insky, First Secretary of the Communist Party in the neighbouring Soviet republic of Moldavia, had postponed a planned visit during which he was to lobby against the decree outlawing the party. His denial followed a rash of diplomatic rumours that Moscow's hand was seen in the decision to reverse the abolition decree.

According to Mr Munteanu, there were no more than 1,000 demonstrators present but scores of Western newsmen who were there estimated the

crowd at between 7,000 and 10,000 strong.

The hint of Soviet influence denied earlier suggestions — denied but never effectively disproved — that the Kremlin played an important role in manipulating underground opposition to Nicolae Ceausescu's dictatorship.

Mr Dumitru Mazilu, the first deputy president in the Front Government, said yesterday he was taking legal action over press attacks linking him to Ceausescu's security police. Meanwhile, the

disarray inside the provisional Government has done nothing to stem the influx of European politicians anxious to establish the West's credentials and offer material help for reconstruction.

Yesterday it was the turn of Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, to meet Front leaders. He will be followed in the next 24 hours by Mr William Waldegrave, a Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who arrived late yesterday, and Mr Sten Andersson, the

Swedish Foreign Minister.

Mr Sergiu Celac, the Romanian Foreign Minister, has expressed concern at the damage being done to Romania's new image by the fact that its first democratic act will be a referendum on reversing last month's abolition of the death penalty.

"Morte" ("Death") was howled by the mob at last Friday's demonstration, and quickly exacted the promise of a referendum, which most observers expect to support a return to the firing squad.

A funny thing happened on the way to freedom

From Christopher Walker
Bucharest

A Frenchman, a Russian and a Romanian are asked by Western journalists for their opinion on meat shortages.

"What is a shortage?" replies the Frenchman. "What is an opinion?" the Russian inquires. "What is meat?" asks the Romanian.

The overthrow of the Ceausescu dictatorship and the collapse of his ruthless intelligence network has opened the way to a flood of political jokes which are now being published and told openly in Romania for the first time in 24 years.

Most concern the terrible living conditions, the stupidity of Ceau-

escu's domineering wife Elena, and the sad performance of communism.

In an attempt to ensure that they are not quickly forgotten in the post-revolutionary chaos, a large selection were printed, along with cartoons, in the weekly supplement of the new Bucharest daily *Advarul* (Truth).

"Excuse me," asked a listener to Radio Armenia, once a mainstay of anti-Brezhnev jokes in the Soviet Union, "is it true that you can die as a result of throat cancer?" The radio replied solemnly: "Yes, but unfortunately HE does not have it."

A delegation from the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, sent to investigate living conditions in Switzerland, is asked whether it would be possible to

build socialism there. "Yes," was the reply, "but it would be a great pity."

Romanians are proud that their underground humour was kept alive despite the best efforts of the Securitate. One young tour guide explained that after checking with the coach driver for bugs, he used to tell the jokes to American tourists, while making guided tours past Ceausescu's architectural follies.

One published yesterday concerned a visit to the Louvre by Mrs Ceausescu, whose peasant origins and bad taste were reflected in her vulgar but expensive personal effects.

After asking her guide about several pictures, all of which she identifies wrongly, she exclaims: "What a fantastic Picasso!" "Pardon me,

madam, but that is a mirror," the hapless guide replies.

Romania under Ceausescu provided a joke-makers' paradise because of the blatant way in which normal aspects of national life were doctored to paint a false picture.

Among the stories in *Advarul* was one about a sow given by the dictator to a collective farm with orders for it to become a champion breeder. The litter numbered a single piglet, but the collective farm boss decided to falsify the total to six. The regional party head increased it to 12 and the Central Committee made it 16.

"We will have to be satisfied with that," the dictator said. "One of the piglets can go to export and the other 15 to the people."

Bonn warms to East Berlin as Modrow softens stance

From Ian Murray, Bonn

Bonn's irritation with the transitional East German Government has recently been "partially removed", Herr Hans Kohl, the West German Government's spokesman agreed yesterday after a special coalition meeting on developments in inner-German affairs.

Herr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, said last week that there was growing concern about political developments, particularly because proposals for organizing the general election on May 6 were too helpful to the communists, and because of plans to create a new secret police.

Since then Herr Hans Modrow, the East German Prime Minister, has promised to work closely with the opposition parties, and yesterday he agreed to take part in round-table discussions. He has also postponed plans for a new secret police force.

These moves by Herr Modrow were matched by the weekend announcement from Frau Christina Luft, the East

German Economics Minister, that the country was now ready to begin the transition to an efficient market economy.

This suggests that the Government has abandoned its efforts to find "a middle, socialist way" between capitalism and central planning.

Along with the slow phasing out of subsidies, Frau Luft has ended restrictions on private ownership in all but the energy, transport and heavy industry sectors, opening the way for a West German-financed private sector.

Herr Kohl's strong stand on democracy and a market economy being preconditions for West German aid to East Germany appears to be doing him considerable good in domestic politics.

A new opinion poll shows that West Germany's big political parties are gaining support at the expense of smaller ones as a result of developments in East Germany. The poll, by Infratest, suggests that, as the important issue of reunification is coming more

and more under consideration, voters are less and less likely to register protest votes in favour of the little parties.

Instead they are turning to the big, established parties with experience in relations with East Germany.

The Infratest poll shows that Herr Kohl's Christian Democrats have done particularly well since the last comparable poll in September, when the first big flood of refugees began to arrive.

In the four months since then the party and the Christian Social Union, its sister group in Bavaria, have seen their support rise six points to 42 per cent.

This has allowed them to overtake the opposition Social Democrats who nevertheless also slightly improved their score from 39 per cent to 40 per cent.

The Free Democrats, junior partners in the government coalition, lost two points, falling to 7 per cent. The Greens also lost two points to 7 per cent.

Genghis Khan makes comeback as Mongolia's conquering hero

By James Pringle

Perestroika or *shinetchit* (renewal), as it is called locally, is moving along rapidly in one of the world's most remote lands, the Mongolian People's Republic, which is also the world's second oldest communist state after the Soviet Union. And popular demands for reforms are keeping pace.

Several thousand people, belonging to the Mongolian Democratic Federation, a reformist group formed just over a month ago, gathered in Ulan Bator's biting cold at the weekend ago to call for the return from Moscow to Mongolia and trial of the country's Brezhnev, former President Yumjaagi Tsendenbal, who was deposed in 1984 after nearly 40 years as party leader, Premier and President.

Mr Tsendenbal, who has a

domineering Russian wife, was blamed for slavishly following the Soviet Union in all fields (when he stirred out of his lassitude to do anything at all) — even though Mongolia is not a constituent republic of the Soviet Union, but an independent state.

It is unlikely extreme measures will be taken against Mr Tsendenbal, because he was already senile when deposed — he had lost his memory, officials in Ulan Bator told me last summer.

With Soviet aid, a revolution was staged in 1921 against the old order in Mongolia, and the MPR was founded in 1924. Only the first years were now seen as good ones. Five decades, from the mid-1930s to the mid-1980s, were a disaster story, ordinary Mongolians — even officials — now

say. They are racing to make up for lost time. As one of the few Western correspondents who has visited Mongolia from time to time over the years, I was staggered last summer to see the changes. Physically the country looked the same, but attitudes had undergone a sea-change.

A metaphor for what was happening was the rehabilitation of Genghis Khan, the 13th-century Mongol conqueror. On previous visits, his name had been mentioned by Mongolians literally only in whispers — he was in a political wilderness as vast as the Gobi Desert that covers much of this vast but beautiful country sandwiched as a buffer state between the uneasy Communist neighbours, the Soviet Union and China.

But the Mongolians were

building their first five-star luxury hotel in Ulan Bator, and it had been decided — by popular demand in the form of thousands of letters that had reached the government — that it was to be proudly called the Hotel Genghis Khan.

Efforts were being made to locate the birthplace of the Mongol conqueror. "Every-one you meet wants to talk about Genghis Khan," said a British tourism official who had been called in to advise on Mongolia's fledgling tourist industry.

There was talk even then — repeated this week — of pulling down the vast statue of Stalin in central Ulan Bator (the capital's name means "Red Hero"), and of removing the body of Marshal Horlogiyn Choybalsan from its mausoleum in the vast square in

the centre of Ulan Bator. Choybalsan had conducted his own version of the Moscow trials in the late 1930s and sent many of his colleagues to the firing squad.

"After Mr Gorbachev initiated *glasnost* in the Soviet Union, the Mongolians just picked up the ball and started running with it," one Western diplomat said. "The Mongolians have had quite a serious bout of inferiority complex. Now there's a new concept of national identity."

And an Asian envoy, returning after an absence of ten years, said: "When I was here before I was followed everywhere by security men. Now I don't feel I am being watched. It doesn't feel like an authoritarian country any more. This is a turning point, one of the most interesting

moments in this country's history."

It seemed the Russians, who are pulling out 75 per cent of their 50,000 troops here in the next year or so, were encouraging the changes — at



though the Mongolians did not need much prompting. "We are quite calm," noted a senior Russian envoy on the subject of Genghis Khan (whose successors, after all,

despoiled much of Muscovy) "Why should they forget important figures in their history?"

Because Britain was one of the first Western countries to establish — and continue to staff — an embassy in Ulan Bator (they were joined in 1988 by the Americans — the Japanese, of course, are also there), the first joint ventures with Western countries were with Britain. Up to now, 96 per cent of Mongolia's trade has been with Comecon. They are desperate to look elsewhere. Thousands of Mongolians have also been learning English through repeats of a BBC language course on Mongolian television.

As in East Europe, there are plenty of problems. Lines at food shops, few consumer

goods, shortages of some food staples, and appalling pollution in Ulan Bator itself.

There is a drift from the herdsman's life of the steppes to unemployment in few cities. And the problems of the modern world were filtering across the Gobi desert. The Mongolians had recently tested 16,000 potentially "high-risk" persons for Aids (whatever "high risk" can mean in Mongolia) and, though none were found positive, there is a sense that the problems of the outside world were arriving.

But there is also a feeling that, after so many years in limbo, the Mongolians have rediscovered who they are, and they want the world to hear from them, even though there are just over two million of them.

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PARLIAMENT

Brooke refuses immediate answers on shootings

Answers to a long list of questions from the Opposition about the shooting dead by soldiers of three men in west Belfast on Saturday were refused by Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, on the grounds that they were the subject of operational instructions or of the "rigorous" inquiry by the RUC into the incident.

At the request of the Opposition, he made a statement on the shooting in Falls Road by an undercover Army unit.

Mr Brooke said that by chance the soldiers saw two masked men, one of whom appeared to be carrying a machine gun, get out of a car and enter a betting shop. The driver remained in the car.

It was the responsibility of members of the security forces immediately to respond to any danger to life. "What precisely happened next, and why, is properly the subject of the investigation now being rigorously pursued by the RUC and the House will not expect me to comment on details."

All three men had been subsequently shot and killed and a passer-by slightly injured. A crowd immediately began to gather and vehicles, including black taxis, to block adjoining roads. The soldiers went to an RUC station to report the incident and the RUC supported by the Army, went to the scene to take control within a few minutes.

The sub-machine gun had been a replica and a replica pistol had been recovered from the betting shop. These were exact scale replicas, so convincing that only careful examination showed that they could not fire live rounds.

Terrorism in Northern Ireland had encouraged violent crime. In combating such crime the security forces were required to operate within the law, using reasonable force.

Specific instructions and training were given to the security forces making clear that firearms were a last resort and to be used only when life was likely to be endangered and there was no other way of preventing that danger.

The security forces were expected to evaluate dangerous

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situations and act appropriately within seconds.

"We should not underestimate the difficulties they face. The RUC are conducting a full and thorough investigation. This must now take its course. I hope that nothing will be said in this House that could hinder or prejudice the completion of this important task."

Mr Kevin McNamara, chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, said that the incident raised questions about the rule of law, the role of the Army and the RUC, and the minimum use of force.

The Opposition was well aware of the difficulties faced by the security forces.

It was precisely because incidents of this nature had the capacity to inflict great damage on public confidence in the rule of law and the security forces that the circumstances must be subject to the fullest possible scrutiny.

What were the rules of engagement under which the Army was operating? Did the yellow card rules apply - aimed shots only and only to prevent escape?

Was the Government still committed to the primacy of the RUC? Was the RUC aware of the presence of the Army undercover squad in the area and under what instructions was it operating? Were the three soldiers "tasked by the RUC" for this particular duty?

Why were the RUC and the Army unable to issue a statement on Saturday? Why was it possible for the Army yesterday to brief heavily selected journalists on issues which today Mr Brooke was asking MPs not to pursue?

Mr Brooke confirmed that the driver was the first to be shot, that he was not challenged, that no real or replica weapon was found in the car nor any paramilitary uniform?

Was the Army unit in radio contact with its immediate superior? What information did they send and what instructions were relayed to them?

Witnesses had alleged that the other two men had been given the coup de grace while lying on the ground.

Would Mr Brooke confirm that the soldiers were members of the 14th Independent Company? Would he say the purpose of the unit, its form and duties?

Was there any connection between this incident and the reported shootings at 11pm on Friday night in the near vicinity and the marked increase in military presence in the area in the preceding 24 hours?

"What is of most importance is that we should be able to maintain confidence in the security forces and that is why we need to have an early and speedy answer to these many difficult and awesome questions."

Mr Brooke said that the yellow card represented operating instructions for the use of the security forces in Ulster, and as such it would not be appropriate to publish it. The other questions of this nature came under the same aspect of operational details.

On the RUC and its awareness of the presence, and likewise of the tasking of the soldiers by the RUC, this came back to the RUC inquiry. A short statement had been issued by the RUC on Saturday night.

Questions on the driver of the car, radio communications, and the condition of the men after they had been shot also came into the area of operational detail, and he had made clear that he would not enlarge on those. It was not policy to indicate units to which soldiers belonged.

There was no connection whatsoever between the reported shooting the previous evening and the security forces' activity in the neighbourhood.

Mr Robert MacLennan, Liberal Democrat spokesman on home affairs, asked if Mr Brooke agreed that the rules of engagement did not require security forces to hesitate when they apprehended that their lives were in danger and that the use of force was justified. Judgement on the matter until the inquiry had been carried out.

However, would Mr Brooke consider, after he had seen the report of the RUC inquiry, if a wider inquiry, not directly supervised by the security forces, might be appropriate, because one of the issues at least was the extent to which the armed forces were acting on the instructions of the RUC.

Mr Brooke said that he was grateful for Mr MacLennan's remarks about the circumstances in which the armed forces had to take decisions in Ulster. He could not discuss

details of the incident without risking prejudicing the RUC inquiry.

The RUC would pass their conclusions to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Mr Peter Temple-Morris (Leominster, C) said that Mr Brooke should not be diverted from his efforts to bring the parties together in Northern Ireland so as to remove the basis of terrorism which had caused this tragedy.

Mr Brooke said that he looked forward in the hope that they would be able to continue those conversations.

Mr Seamus Mallon (Newry and Armagh, SDLP) said that since 1982 there had been 12 killings in similar circumstances. They caused enormous damage to confidence in the system of justice and convinced many people that when it came to a choice between the security or the integrity of the law the Government always chose expediency.

Mr Brooke said that confidence was most likely to be sustained by the clear evidence that the security forces were operating under the rule of law.

Mr Mervyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab) said that Mr Brooke should have volunteered a statement today instead of leaving the running over the weekend to Mr Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Féin, who had the nerve to suggest that Amnesty International should investigate.

If Amnesty investigated this, it ought to look into the 3,000 people who had died over the past 20 years. Mr Brooke should make absolutely sure that the police were in charge of policing in west Belfast.

Mr Brooke said that statements had been made over the weekend by Dr Brian Maguire, secretary of the RUC, and Mr Rees on Mr Adams.

Mr Tony Best (Chesterfield, Lab) said that the killings would increase the conviction that the soldiers and the security forces in Northern Ireland were running rampant (Conservative protest). Mr Brooke had made no expression of regret to the families of those who died. That would confirm the impression that anything the security forces did was endorsed by the Government.

Mr Brooke said that the words about rampage were absurd.
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Mr Michael Spicer, Minister for Housing and Planning (right), cutting a cake to mark the first anniversary of the extension of the Business Expansion Scheme aimed at increasing the number of private homes for rent. The minister, on his first public engagement since his appointment, is with Miss Pauline Osborne, a tenant on a development in north London, and Mr Mark Beresford, managing director of Wates Letting and Management Services.

Baker denies salary charge

Mr Kenneth Baker denied a suggestion from a Labour MP that he was getting paid £52,000 a year by the taxpayer to be chairman of the Conservative Party.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) complained about the little work Mr Baker did in his official position as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. He said that the job was "just a cover, a way of getting the taxpayer to give Mr Baker a salary of £52,000 a year and a seat in Cabinet as chairman of the Conservative Party."

It would be far better if the salary were paid by Conservative Central Office rather than the hard-pressed taxpayer.

Mr Baker: I get no ministerial salary at all (laughter).

Mr Banks was chairman of the GLC while representing Newham North West in this House. I deprived him of his first job in 1986 and I will do all I can to deprive him of his present job at the next general election.

Slimming aids suggestion

The Government will consider whether to bring some substances not generally regarded as food, such as slimming aids, within the ambit of the Food Safety Bill, Lady Tringham, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said when she considered a case of the Bill began in the Lords.

Lady East (Lib Dem) had moved an amendment to define food. He said that he had used a definition from the New English Dictionary.

Lady Tringham said that a definition had never proved necessary in the past.

New whip in the Lords

Lady Blatch has been appointed a whip, completing the government team in the House of Lords.

Lady Blatch, who served in the Women's Royal Air Force, is a former air traffic controller. From 1981 to 1985 she was leader of Cambridgeshire County Council. She has also served on Peterborough Development Corporation.

Commons day

A proposal to revive morning sittings of the Commons was rejected by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Leader of the House, at question time. He told Mr Graham Allan (Nottingham North, Lab) that such a system had been tried 20 years ago. "It broke the continuity of debate and did not work."

MPs' kiosk

The souvenir kiosk in the Commons, which sells House of Commons labelled drinks, cigarettes and sweets as well as gifts, took £171,325 last December, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Leader of the House, told MPs at question time.

Cigarette law

The Home Office is considering steps to strengthen the law preventing children under 16 years from buying cigarettes, Mr Peter Lloyd, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said in a Commons written reply.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Employment; Prime Minister; Coal Industry Bill, remaining stages. Lords (2.30): Courts and Legal Services Bill, committee, first day.

Bill 'lays foundation for pollution control'

The Environmental Protection Bill would lay the foundation for pollution control well into the next century, Mr Christopher Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in the Commons when he moved its second reading.

He said that it would be ludicrous to try to solve every environmental problem in one Bill. He hoped that MPs would resist the temptation to try to hang every pet environmental objective on the branches of this particular legislative tree.

He said that the Bill established two arms to control pollution. Local authorities would be responsible for smaller plants with the Inspectorate of Pollution tackling the bigger processes.

Defending the proposals to break up the Nature Conservancy Council, he said that it was patently obvious that wildlife in Wales and Scotland was better protected by a central body based in England.

Mr Bryan Gould, for the Opposition, said that, although the environment was in danger, the Bill was not the one to restore it. "The claim that this is a green Bill is a piece of vainglorious nonsense."

Mr Patten said that a judicious mix of governmental regulation and market economics was the best way of ensuring enhanced environmental quality. Sustainable growth was the friend, not the enemy, of a cleaner and greener environment.

The Bill established two innovative pollution control systems: local authority air-pollution control and integrated pollution control.

The new regime strengthened the role of local authorities and gave them the means of tackling air pollution before it occurred. Their powers would

During his speech, Mr Patten announced that Professor John Beringer, of Bristol University, is to be chairman of a committee to monitor the control of genetically modified organisms.

Biotechnology, he said, had an excellent safety record, but increasingly genetically modified organisms (GMOs) might be expected to have a wider environmental impact. Development had already reached the stage where they were routinely employed in contained factory processes and might thus reach the wider environment in waste streams or by accident.

At the heart of the proposals was a requirement for any person who intended to import, keep or release a GMO to the environment to carry out a risk assessment. He envisaged a comprehensive set of regulations setting out details of the regime.

cover a range of processes such as small power plants, glassworks and municipal and hospital incinerators.

Big processes would be controlled by the Inspectorate of Pollution under integrated pollution control (IPC).

About 3,500 sites, such as oil refineries, large iron and steelworks and chemical works, would be subject to it.

Authorizations would be based on "the best available techniques not entailing excessive cost" so there would be a built-in mechanism for stronger environmental protection. As techniques improved, higher environmental standards would be required.

The Bill contained new proposals for public access to environmental information. "Making more informa-

tion available will change that by identifying inadequate performers and rewarding environmental achievers."

The Bill also presented a new approach to waste. In the past, economic development and growth had been the only way to keep the waste to break that connection.

The Government's aim was that all waste disposal should meet the highest standards. "Costs must be passed back to the waste producers, forcing them to re-appraise the true economics of their production process."

The Bill would increase local authorities' powers on recycling and lead to progress towards the government target of recycling half of Britain's recyclable waste by the end of the decade.

The Bill strengthened the powers of local authorities to deal expeditiously with noise and smells. It would be a new power to deal with nuisances such as dust from demolition. Noise-control legislation would be reviewed by a working party reporting by the summer.

Local authorities would be placed under a new duty to keep streets and land free of litter. A code of practice on litter clearance setting standards and advising how to achieve them would be published shortly.

Citizens would be given the right to apply to a magistrates' court for a litter abatement order, compelling a defaulting authority to clear litter.

A similar duty would fall on organizations such as British Rail and other owners of land. Local authorities would also be given powers to extend the duty to certain types of land in other ownership, such as supermarkets and parks.

The new structure of countryside

ENVIRONMENT

agencies should make it easier to co-ordinate their work with that of government.

The argument for a single Nature Conservancy Council seemed to assume that wildlife in Wales and Scotland should be governed from the council in Peterborough and the Department of Environment in Marsham Street, London.

"It is a strange and, frankly, puzzling argument which we reject."

The new country agencies would be able to tailor delivery of conservation more closely to regional and local needs.

Lord Cranbrook had accepted his invitation to be first chairman of the Nature Conservancy Council for England. The first chairman of the joint committee to co-ordinate the work of the three country councils would be Professor Fred Holliday, at present Vice-Chancellor of Durham University. Mr Magnus Magnusson was to be first chairman of the new council for Scotland.

Northern Ireland would be brought into the formal arrangements so that a UK, as well as a British, dimension could be obtained to nature conservation policies.

The Bill delivered two other important commitments: every scientist now working for the Nature Conservancy Council, and all members of the staff, would be offered posts in one of the successor bodies. That would ensure the existing skill and expertise of the council were transferred to the new bodies. It also provided for the

transfer of the council's present property and commitments.

It meant that the 235 national nature reserves would be passed on to the stewardship of the country body responsible for the area where they were located.

The Crown would not be immune from the provisions of the Bill. The Government should be seen to be in the lead protecting the environment, and his proposals would ensure that failures of government departments to come up to the required standards would be plainly identifiable.

Mr Patten moved an amendment declining to give a second reading to the Bill because, among other things, it failed to address the urgent problem of global warming and to establish a comprehensive system of integrated pollution control administered by an independent environmental protection executive.

He said that the environment was certainly in grave danger, but this Bill was not the one to protect it.

The Government's failures concerned not just its weakness in international negotiations but also failures in domestic policy.

The Bill was a prime example of botched legislation. "The claim that this is a green Bill is a piece of vainglorious nonsense. So far as it is a colour at all, it is mottled at best. It is blue rather than green."

It owed more to Tory dogma and ideological obsession - free markets, antipathy to local government and public spending, the protection of powerful, vested interests - than to any real appreciation of the true scale and urgency of the threats to the environment.

Letters, page 13

MP draws Speaker's rebuke

An allegation that a number of MPs were seeking payments from a public relations company was made by Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Wokingham, Lab).

He was repeatedly told by the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) to take the matter up with the appropriate select committee of which he was a member.

Mr Campbell-Savours said that in December he had spoken to a Mr Ian Greer, of Ian Greer Associates, who had told him that he had been making payments to a number of MPs.

The Speaker said that he hoped Mr Campbell-Savours was not going to make allegations about MPs. He must draw the issue to the attention of the select committee.

Mr Campbell-Savours said that he had been informed that a number of Conservative MPs had been paid to use their positions to tout for business and subsequently payments had not been declared on the register of interests.

The Speaker said that once again Mr Campbell-Savours was abusing the procedures of the House of Commons by seeking to make allegations against MPs.

If he had allegations of this kind, they must be made to the relevant select committee.

"I am not prepared to hear this sort of allegation made across the floor."

Moves to restrict embryo Bill

Two leading Scottish peers have tabled amendments in the Lords to restrict the use of human embryos under the Warnock legislation (Sheila Gunn writes).

Lord Perth and Lady Saltoun of Abernethy, who sit on the independent cross-benches, will initiate debates early in the next session to tighten the provisions of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill during the Lords committee stage.

Lord Perth is seeking to ban the "hamster test" used as a diagnostic test to measure the fertility of male sperm. It is done by mixing the human sperm with a hamster embryo. The Government's legislation would allow, under licence, fertilization by mixing sperm with the egg of another species so long as the embryo is immediately destroyed. However, Lord Perth's amendment would prevent all such cross-fertilization.

Lady Saltoun is seeking to restrict methods of artificial fertilization, such as *in vitro* fertilization or embryo donation, to married women only. Her amendments would make it illegal to place an embryo in an unmarried woman.

Amendments urging further restrictions on embryo experiments and abortion are expected to be tabled soon.

Tributes to former Lord Chancellor

Lord Gardiner, who died on January 7 at the age of 89, had brought a fine presence to the office of Lord Chancellor and had been one of the most formidable advocates of his generation, Lord Belstead, Leader of the House of Lords, said in a tribute to the Labour peer when the House resumed after the Christmas recess.

He had initiated many projects of law reform, which had subsequently entrenched themselves in the system of justice.

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, said that Lord Gardiner would be remembered as one of the great lawyers of the century but had also been attracted to the stage, where Gerald du Maurier had a high regard for his talents as an actor.

"There is a certain affinity between the stage and the Bar, as we have observed from time to time" (laughter).

In Cabinet, when dealing with political issues, he had always been brief and to the point, which had set him apart from the rest. A number of books would be needed to do full justice to the radical changes he had introduced as Lord Chancellor, and he would go down in history as one of the great reforming Lord Chancellors.

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead,



Lord Gardiner: A lawyer attracted to the stage

leader of the Liberal Democrats, said that Lord Gardiner had spoken little in Cabinet, but with lasting impact.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone (C) said that the establishment of the Law Commission would go down in history as his most enduring and valuable achievement.

Lord Longford (Lab) said that no one did as much as Lord Gardiner for the abolition of capital punishment.

Long-suffering rail commuters in the South-east were entitled to a fairer deal, Mr Roger Moute (Faversham, C) said to Conservative cheers at questions.

He confirmed, too, that there would be an investment programme of more than £2.2 billion for the next three years. The latter sum excluded substantial investment likely to take place in an additional line in November. All that made for a record for London Transport.

Mr Ronald Leighton (Newham North East, Lab) said that it was a scandal and a disgrace that after 10 years of Tory government, the situation on the Under-

ground was so bad. The Underground was deliberately pushing up fares above the inflation rate to discourage users, adding to road congestion.

The Central Line of London Underground is to be re-equipped with new trains carrying more people and to have more signalling to enable more trains to run, Mr Michael Portillo, Minister for Public Transport, said at questions. The plan included a 16 per cent increase in capacity and a 12 per cent reduction in journey times.

He said that the modernization would cost £720 million. The Government had brought forward the order for trains to the earliest possible date so that they

would be running in 1992. More staff would be available on stations to look after passengers and he was keen that more escalators should be available.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) asked how much of the investment was coming from the Government and how much was to be internally generated by London Transport. Did the proposals take account the possibility that Stratford might be used as the site of the second London rail terminal of the Channel tunnel link?

Mr Portillo said that if Stratford became the second terminal, the proposals might have to be amended. Over the next three years the Government subsidy to London Regional Transport would rise by 113 per cent. As a former chairman of the Greater London Coun-

cil, Mr Banks would know that government investment in London Regional Transport was double what it was in his day.

Ms Joan Raddock, an Opposition transport spokesman, said that LRT would have lost much more money.

It was possible that the investment plan for the Central Line and other parts of the Underground might be delayed or cancelled because of lack of government support and cuts similar to those that had already affected British Rail.

Mr Portillo said that there had been no cut in government support for LRT. There had been an enormous increase.

"London Regional Transport might have wished to have been given more money, but these are record sums and any child in a sweet shop learns that what he wants is not what he can have."

£2.2bn more is planned

LRT investment up by 60% since 1984

TRANSPORT

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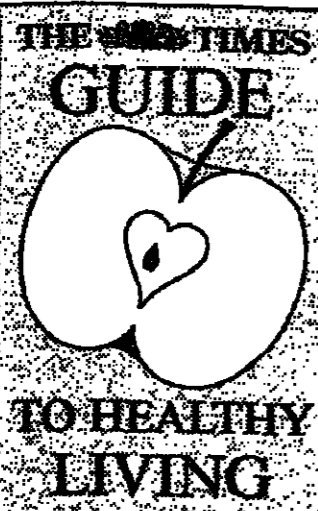
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Work can damage your health



Part 2: Occupational hazards

All work and no play can make Jack dull but Jill sparkle. Liz Gill discovers why career stress can be a health hazard for some of us — and how the 'hardy' personality thrives

Work, Noël Coward pronounced airily, is more fun — but then, that's easy to say when everyone calls you "the master". For those with less control over their lives, work can be not only a real headache but a stomach ulcer, a heart attack or a nervous breakdown.

In her book, *The Complete Guide to Stress Management*, Dr Chandra Patel lists more than 60 potential occupational stressors, ranging from physical surroundings through difficult colleagues to managerial style. So commonplace are most of them that it seems a wonder anyone emerges unscathed at the end of the day.

Yet the irony is that work can be a blessing as well as a curse. In the Holmes and Rahe league table of 43 stressful life events, only six are job-related, and even being fired ranks a mere seventh, worth 47 points compared, for example, to 100 for the death of a spouse.

Throwing oneself into work is, quite rightly, a time-honoured method of coping with other troubles. Hans Selye, the American regarded as the founder of stress research, thought that work was a biological necessity, and Patel, who is senior clinical lecturer in the Department of Community Medicine at University College, London, agrees that it seems essential for our well-being and sense of fulfilment.

She cites one study which found that job satisfaction was the most important factor in determining whether a patient recovered from a heart attack; and another which discovered that bank managers were dying, on average, just 18 months after retirement.

Yet despite our need for work it can be hazardous to our health. Accidents at work in Britain cost 23 million working days a year; mental stress and illness cost a further 37 million days.

It is often assumed that the higher someone's position, and the greater his or her responsibility, the more likely that person is to be stressed. Medical evidence, however, suggests the opposite, Patel says. A report on a group of London civil servants showed that death from heart attacks was three times higher among lower-grade employees, such as clerks and messengers, than among administrators. And American insurance companies have found that the death rate among company presidents is almost half the average for all men of the same age.

Dr Desmond Kelly, a psychiatrist at the Priory Hospital, Roehampton, Surrey, sees a lot of stress cases. He believes work problems lie at the bottom of most of the 900 new admissions to the hospital each year.

Kelly, president of the International Stress and Tension Control Society, has identified four stages in the "burn-out" syndrome. The first, he says, is when someone starts a new job and is insecure and uncertain how to cope. A few days start seriously over-working them. "As pressure builds up you get short-lived bouts of tiredness, anger and frustration. People start to 'unfreeze', saying how dreadful everything is."

"As the process goes on the stress begins to impact, and there

is increasing anger and resentment lasting for longer periods. There is a lowering of self-esteem, apathy and cynicism. By the fourth stage, which is when they get to us, they are in extreme physical distress. They might have headaches, backaches, ulcers, angina. They may be dependent on alcohol or tranquillizers."

Kelly gives his patients a 10-point plan, which incorporates common-sense health advice, relaxation techniques and guidance on managing time and people. Create time buffers to deal with unexpected emergencies, he says; start saying no to prevent pressure building up. Try to avoid what he calls "psychotoxic" colleagues. "We all know the types: 10 minutes in their company and you feel dreadful."

The realm of stress research is relatively new. At one time the whole emphasis was on Type A, the thrusting, aggressive, impatient sort, twice as likely to get a heart attack as a placid Type B. Though this is still generally accepted, American psychologists are now trying to identify what they call the "hardy personality" who is extremely resilient to stress and may even thrive on it. The behaviour pattern of this personality, according to the American research, shows "the three Cs: commitment, control and challenge."

Certainly we all need some stress, Patel compares it to adjusting the strings of a musical instrument: "Too loose and there's no tune, too tight and we snap." Working hours are not in themselves a reliable guide, Patel says. But there are various alarm bells, physical, emotional, and mental. "One of the problems is that you often don't recognize that you are tired and you continue to push yourself. I have one patient who won't take her coat off when she gets home for fear that doing so will lure her into sitting down and being lazy, so she starts to cook dinner with her coat on."

Women generally report more psychosomatic symptoms, anxiety states and depression, but they still live longer than men. It may be that their range of roles makes them more resilient, Patel says.

Judith Mills, management consultant and regional chair of the Institute of Personnel Management, says employees are most bothered by the intangible elements of a job: not being listened to or valued, not knowing what's expected, lack of training or retraining, feeling under or over-qualified for a particular position.

Francis Kinsman believes the trend away from nine-to-five jobs is inevitable. Kinsman is a "futurist" who works from home in Bath, advising private companies and government departments on future trends. His latest book, *Millennium*, which is published on Thursday (W.H. Allen, £12.95), includes a look at new work patterns. He quit the City after several years in banking and broking because "I was always worrying whether my boss was appreciating me, my subordinates were doing what they should, or I was being stabbed in the back."

"Now I compress the things that might be stressful — travelling, meetings and lectures — into short spans of time. That way the stress is still exciting."



Dennis Stevenson: "Given the excess of demand over time, my aim is to balance domestic life with work"

SAVED BY A SHEET OF PAPER AT 5.30AM

Early every morning — often before 5.30am — Dennis Stevenson has divided a sheet of paper into four and written an instruction to himself in each corner: think, do, dictate and phone. He is chairman of SRU, a group of businesses covering specialist property, venture capital and investment in high technology. He is also chairman of the charity Intermediate Technology, of the Trustees of the Tate, and of the Docklands Sinfonietta. And he plays the violin.

"Given the excess of demand over time my aim is to balance domestic life with work," he says. It helps, he admits, to be the boss, but he also has a "totally flexible attitude to working hours". On the day we

spoke he was planning to leaving the office at 2.45pm and spend the afternoon playing the violin with his children — he has four sons aged between five and 15. But he was also taking home a pile of papers to read.

There is, of course, a down side: something going wrong in any one of the fields can cause him to lose sleep — "and I do. But I don't think doing a lot of different things is stressful in itself."

At 44 he needs five or six hours sleep a night, smokes a few cigars a week, jogs a couple of miles every two or three days and is "a solid half-stone overweight". He recently had a private medical check-up and was pronounced in perfect health. "If I've got great pressures I think 'well, this is going to give me a heart attack'. But actually working out those pressures and winning makes you feel good."



Isabel Greenwood: "You couldn't do it for long if you didn't like it, because of the demands on your time"

JOB SATISFACTION STILL HIGH AT 1.1PM

Isabel Greenwood drives to her office at seven in the morning and rarely leaves before seven at night. At least that way, she says, she avoids the stress of sitting in London traffic.

At 32, Greenwood is one of two deputy managing directors of Biss Lancaster, a public relations company with an annual turnover of £3 million, and a member of its board. Her responsibilities include recruitment and training, and recently the supervision of a move to new offices.

Two or three times a month she will give a major presentation to a client — "that really gets the adrenalin going". If a big project is running she will frequently work until 10 or 11pm, and at weekends.

"The job is stressful in many ways. There are deadlines and you have to juggle a lot of different

things and be able to move quickly from one area to another. We try to foster a sense of accountability, but I suppose if the buck stops anywhere it stops with me."

"But it is enormously satisfying. I don't think you could do it for long if you didn't like it, because the demands made on your time are enormous."

Greenwood never drinks during the day, doesn't smoke and goes to an aerobics class once a week. Her main worry is her diet: too much snacking on chocolate and sticky buns. "I wouldn't want to sound smug but generally I think I'm quite fit. I don't think I've ever had an illness caused by work or stress. I did have malaria some years ago so I think tiredness might hit me before it hits others. That's my alarm bell. On the whole, though, I've got quite a high degree of resistance."

When to retire from the race

The Bible exhorts us to labour hard in this world, for there is no work in the grave. It doesn't explain if this is a promise or a threat, and disregards the possibility that working hard with thy might, as advocated in Ecclesiastes, might bring the day of reckoning nearer.

Recognizing stress, and the illness which can stem from it, is part of the art of coping with 20th-century life. Sir Norman Fowler's decision to retire from the front bench in order to ease his workload may not be in accord with Old Testament teaching, but his jolly countenance after he had made his decision showed that it had been the right one.

Fowler analysed his situation and, after balancing the pleasure he found in doing his present employment (together with the chance of further promotion) against the stress caused by his forced absence from his wife and children, decided to resign. Variations of the Fowler problem affect countless families, not all of whom carry out such careful appreciations, or have such freedom of choice; but for one reason or another many continue to plough the same furrow at whatever cost and hope that all will

come right in the end. It doesn't always. Fowler may find that he has not only a happier household but a longer life as a result of his resignation.

Signs and symptoms that something is failing to cope with work stress often first become apparent at home, where the once placid breadwinner may verbally, or even physically, lash out at his wife and children. He will become isolated by his anxieties so that small problems become obsessions.

The once strong man will weaken, may even become tearful, will find it difficult to get to sleep and may wake in the early hours to worry over his competence. Drinking habits change; the social drinker shuns companions and may therefore drink less, whereas the home-lover, normally abstemious, may take to the bottle. With the irritability goes the loss of self-confidence, so that thoughts lose their directions and decisions are delayed: the hallmark of stress is change in personality rather than any individual symptom.

When a patient complains of obvious stress-related symptoms — unexplained headaches, back or neck pain exacerbated because the

OCCUPATIONAL STRESS LEAGUE TABLE

Are you in the right job?

The stress level of librarians rose dramatically when Professor Cary Cooper ranked them bottom in his occupational stress "league table" in *The Sunday Times* in 1984. The stress expert from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology was besieged by letters from outraged librarians.

"Nobody at the top of the stress table complained. I didn't get a single letter from a miner or a teacher or a policeman or a civil aviation pilot," Cooper says, "which shows that stress was somehow perceived as good, or high-status."

He did get a letter from the then Bishop of Birmingham, the Rt Rev Hugh Montefiore, complaining that the church was a more stressful vocation than Cooper's panel of "six well-known stress researchers" had independently evaluated. But Cooper argues that the clergy is a vocation and those who enter it know, by and large, what they're getting into. (Which could be one of the reasons, he speculates, that the armed forces and merchant navy rank comparatively low on the tables, compared with the police force and

holidays, and at the end of the term, before Christmas, have yet to be analysed. But Cooper is confident there will be a discernible difference in cholesterol, fibrinogen and other "stress markers" — including sex hormones which, apparently, rise in both sexes when under stress. Cooper found that the sex lives of female high-fliers in particular were often virtually non-existent.

"If I was doing those tables today teachers would move up from very stressful (6.2) to extremely stressful," Cooper says. Doctors (ranked at 6.8, a "two-star" stress rating, before the White Paper on reorganization) will also move up the league, he predicts, during the Nineties, "as they have to worry more about the paperwork and administration."

One of the most startling findings in Cooper's research was the way women in almost all jobs were less stressed, and coped better, than their male colleagues. "In fact I can't think of a job where women don't cope better than men — except, perhaps, those where they are still breaking the mould, like a female barrister in an all-male chambers, or a woman miner or fire-fighter."

'Doctors and teachers will move up the stress league during the Nineties'

prison service, which people might just idealistically unprepared for the harsher realities and constraints of the job.)

The link between the high-stress jobs was "change, lack of control and a high workload". Uncertainty about the industry — as with miners at the time, and ambulance men now — and enforced relocation are other stress factors. As a general rule of thumb, Cooper found that the higher the "perception of autonomy", the lower the stress level.

Each job or profession has its unique "stress fingerprint", Cooper has found. It should, ideally, be matched with the personality profile of the people in it; the better the match, the lower the individual stress level. Put a Type A journalist (ranked 7.5 on his stress scale of 1 to 10) who demands the buzz of deadlines into a Type B library job (the lowest, with 2) with its quiet order and routines, and you have a recipe for madness.

Since producing the original tables, Cooper and his team have gone on to do more detailed studies on large groups of commercial pilots, GPs, City dealers, teachers, tax officers, air traffic controllers and managers.

These studies involve blood chemistry tests as well as asking participants to fill out comprehensive questionnaires about their job, lifestyle and aspirations. Blood samples taken from teachers, for example, at the beginning of last term, just after the summer

don't have time to wallow in disappointment over losing a big deal."

Cooper has done no study of the self-employed, who, he believes, will become an increasingly significant proportion of the working population in the 1990s. "I think I'd give the self-employed, whether small businesses or professional people, two stars as pretty highly stressed. Although they have a certain amount of control, they can feel pressured and not able to say no."

The results of the survey of 225 financial dealers in the City of London have yet to be completely analysed, but Cooper discovered that those working within American institutions were more highly stressed than those in British or European ones. In his original tables stockbrokers are given a modest 5.5 stress rating, and bankers a low 3.7.

Cooper feels the single European market of 1992 will bring increasing stresses for all of Britain. "On top of all the travel and relocation and mergers and new methods to cope with the EC, British business will perceive itself to be losing control to bureaucrats in Brussels. As a whole country we'll be losing control."

Victoria McKee

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Quiz of the year

No one correctly answered all the questions in our Christmas Quiz of the Year, but the following five came nearest.

THE WINNERS:

John Prentice, Ross Road, Wallington, Surrey; Miss S. Sainsbury, Oyster Quay, Solent Marina, Cosham, Hants; Mrs M.L.P. Lewis, Birch Villas, St Mark's Road, Binfield, Berks; Miss E.M. Croydon, Orange Hill Road, Burnt Oak, London; Miss N. Cheesman, Laburnum Road, Winnersh, Berks.

Each will receive a case of Moët & Chandon Brut Imperial 1983 champagne.

THE ANSWERS:

1(c); 2(c); 3(d); 4(b); 5(d); 6(a); 7(d); 8(b); 9(b); 10(c); 11(c); 12(b); 13(a); 14(c); 15(a); (c) and (d); 16(c); 17(b); 18(d); 19(b); 20(c); 21(b); 22(c); 23(d); 24(b) and (d); 25(d); 26(c); 27(c); 28(d); 29(b); 30(c); 31(c); 32(c); 33(b); 34(d); 35(b); 36(a); 37(a); 38(c); 39(d); 40(b); 41(d); 42(c); 43(d); 44(c); 45(c); 46(a); 47(b); 48(b). Picture questions: A(c); B(b); C(a); D(d).

SORE THROAT, COUGH, CATARRH?

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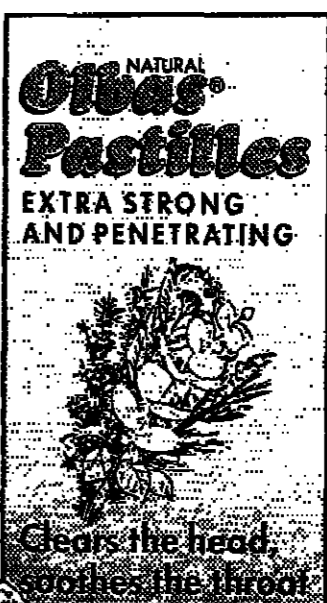
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TIMES DIARY

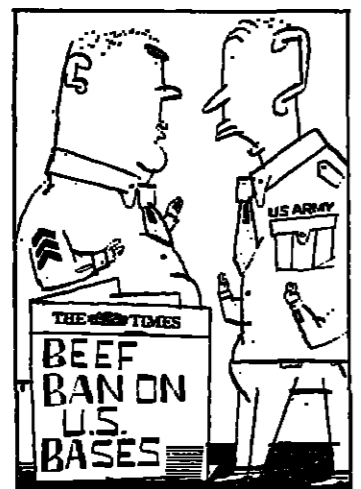
ALAN HAMILTON

Doesn't it seem a lifetime since the world stage was commanded by Nixon, Kissinger, Brandt, Schmidt and Lord Home of the Hirsel? Nostalgia will be rampant in London next month when, provided they accept their invitations, all the aforesaid will be guests at a lunch to mark Edward Heath's 40 years as an MP. Nearly 1,000 invitations went out just after New Year, already 250 have confirmed their attendance. Sir Bernard Braine, who beats Heath for the title Leader of the House by a mere ten minutes, has accepted, as has perhaps the most surprising guest of all, Herself, Heath, now 73, remains determined to stand again, not so much to out Sir Bernard, I suspect, as to outlast Mrs T. But there is an undeniable air of Thatcherism about the whole celebration; the lunch and the accompanying souvenir brochure, I gather, have been paid for by commercial sponsorship and advertising.

Yes, there is such a thing as a Russian fashion industry, and it has started producing designer jeans under the label "Soviet". They are, however, being manufactured in Italy and Hong Kong, for sale only in Europe and the United States, where they will no doubt achieve cult status at \$68 a pair. Even if he could lay hands on them, your average Russian, I reckon, would not be seen dead in them, and I think what the Lithuanians are really shouting about is the freedom to buy Levi 501s.

Negotiators at the current round of Ford pay talks have broken their last agreement only ten days after it came into effect. Smoking was banned in offices, corridors, lifts, company cars and even toilets from January 1, for all the company's 42,000 British employees right up to the chairman, Derek Barron. Unions accepted the ruling with good grace when it was made late last year. But IGWU chief emissary Jack Adams and many of his 30-strong team survived only a few minutes at last week's 12-hour bargaining session on Ford premises before tension destroyed their resolve. Personnel director John Hougham — a non-smoker — kindly turned a blind eye to the transgression, something he will doubtless have to do again tomorrow when the talks resume. But there is already a split in the union ranks. Engineers' leader Jimmy Airlie is a dedicated non-smoker and confesses that cigarette fumes make him "itchy". Fat chance of an early deal here.

BARRY FANTONI



"It's what's under onions, mustard, pickle relish and bread"

Two more winners from your many attempts to lay hands on my six bottles of The Glenlivet by providing an item suitable for publication in this column ten years hence. The finest 12-year old single malt is on its way to Dr William Thomson of Glasgow for this: "Although the twenty-new-hour decimal day is here to stay, we hear the EC ten-day week with its *Mittwoch urlaub* is still a subject of some disquiet. As Professor Sir Ronald Todd said in the annual Thatcher lecture at Oxford, only a cruel and uncaring government would force people to stay at home on Thursday. His hint of a work-in did not go unheeded. But, as Prime Minister Owen said, you cannot unscramble time once the tide has gone out."

And more Speyside liquid gold to David J. Adams of Tones for: "King William's last Christmas speech of the century was broadcast from Balmoral's sultry lawns. The shirt-sleeved King hoped that Eurobritons were enjoying their November-February holidays on the Baltic beaches. Those who had remained at home to tend the herds of African animals could feel proud that their industry was second only now to the manufacturing of potato crisp flavours. He thanked Baroness Thatcher and Sir Kenneth Livingstone for their modest statesmanship as Eurobrit Stewards since his father had abdicated to become Professor of Architecture at Milton Keynes University."

Final winners on Thursday.

You will not, looking back, believe how much you learned this morning. As William Butler Yeats all but put it, when you are old and gray and full of sleep, and nodding by the fire, take down this newspaper, and slowly read, and the recollection will knock your nightcap off.

Take the word *euphorbiaceous*. Do not kid me you have heard it before. For you it is entirely new. You have no idea what it means. Nevertheless, you rather like the sound of it. Is it not radiant? Is it not fragrant? Does it not, indeed, exude the very euphony with which its apparent etymology associates it? I know that smiling prefix, you murmur, I know that *eu-*, and if it's good enough for the Greeks, it's good enough for me.

Ha, ha. The Middle English *euphorbia* from which it derives was originally spelt *euphorbea*, because it was not Greek at all but

If the Government fails to get inflation substantially down by the next election it does not follow that it will lose, because high interest and mortgage rates are not the only factors. But effectively reducing inflation would turn a strong possibility of victory into a near certainty. At the moment the prospects of achieving the Treasury's forecast of 5% per cent by the end of the year look poor. Probably inflation is still edging slightly up and will start centering if there is a wages explosion. The public is so badly informed that it cannot distinguish between a wage rise covered by increased productivity and one which is given for nothing in return. On *Wogan* with Mrs Thatcher last Friday, many in the audience were unaware that the ambulancemen are demanding a hefty increase way beyond inflation not for the coming year but backdated to last April.

The sentimental who give to ambulancemen are subscribing to their own downfall by encouraging a settlement for last year at nearly twice the amount that 84 per cent of the NHS workers settled for long ago. If the ambulancemen succeed there will be no holding their own new claims in this year or those of a multitude of others

hoping to follow their example.

Disdainfully missing from the ambulancemen's demands is any suggestion of increased productivity. Their claim is advanced under cover of a fog of spurious emotion. In Wiltshire and Northumbria hundreds of thousands of pounds are being saved by part privatization of the ambulance services. The same could be done everywhere, or if they preferred it, the unionized ambulancemen could have offered deals of improved performance to produce similar savings and justify some increase in the 6.5 per cent offered last April, acceptance of which their unions then recommended. But better performance deals would have to apply to this April, not to last year, to make sense.

The Government must not, dare not, give in to the ambulancemen, however many opinion polls support them. It is what the something-for-nothing brigade is hoping for, and is

preparing accordingly. It would strengthen the Nalco demand for up to 20 per cent for half a million white-collar workers without increased productivity, and the BBC unions, emboldened by the ill-researched reporting on the BBC and ITV of wage settlements, to press harder for an unjustified 10 per cent rise plus a lump sum of £500. There are hordes out there waiting to commit mass suicide of accelerating inflation by insisting on increases unrelated to productivity.

Manufacturing has already caught this mood; in the latter half of last year our unit wage costs went up by 6 per cent compared with 2 per cent in the US and 1 per cent in West Germany. In Japan, unit wage costs fell by 1 per cent, and by 3 per cent in France. No great intelligence is required to appreciate that the cost of our goods at home and abroad is in danger of rising, sharply compared with that of our competitors.

The present negotiations at Ford, based on slipshod reporting in the media, are cited as a precedent. If Ford can offer 10.2 per cent at the resumed negotiations tomorrow, maybe a bit more, why can't everyone have it? Ford is in a fiercely competitive international market. Any offer it makes is related to productivity increases through changes in working practices arising from the installation of extremely expensive equipment (£2,000 million over the next five years) which must be paid for out of profits. Nissan's 10.2 per cent wage increase at its British plant was similarly geared to productivity. Within a few years the British plants of Ford, Nissan and Honda are due to build up to 600,000 additional cars a year. That is a lot of cars to shift on the market and can only be done at the right price.

Yet even up-market newspapers carelessly get the Ford deal wrong. It is said that its last productivity deal was a fake

because it was never implemented. The truth is that it was not all implemented at once and slower than Ford had hoped. Owing to human nature, deep changes in working practices cannot be made overnight. It is a continuous process in which the present negotiations are another step. But if Ford were not making genuine progress in productivity it would be out of business, and if it gives too much tomorrow its sales will drop and unemployment will afflict its 32,000 workers, as well as those in component suppliers.

Wage increases for improved productivity are the modern way. Anything else is the anti-industrial route to higher inflation and massive job losses. That is the message the Government must get across, not merely to employees but to our superficial media, which ought to be conscious of its responsibility not to mislead the public.

Take the suggestion that GPs are about to be awarded a 13 per

cent rise by an independent pay review. It should not be reported as a crude something-for-nothing, setting a benchmark for others who want more without extra performance. It is the result of the extra work required of GPs under their new contracts. For the first time they will have targets for vaccinations, health screenings, visits to the elderly, more hours with patients and so forth. There is a clear productivity element, though you could scarcely guess this from scanning the media.

Rightly, the Government eschews incomes policies. In the recent past they have ended by increasing wages without corresponding extra output and led to higher unemployment and inflation. If the public, deceived by the media, gets too much of something for nothing the Government will have to keep interest rates high for much longer and, indeed, raise them.

There is evidence that the present high interest rates are beginning to curb consumer spending, as intended. That benefit will be destroyed if floods of extra money, unbacked by extra productivity and efficiency, pour into the shops. We should be bright enough to see this and not sow the seeds of our own future misery.

Woodrow Wyatt warns of increases unrelated to productivity

Pay-rise path to suicide

David Ennals reports on a visit to see how repatriated boat people are faring

Must Vietnam still suffer?

The most interesting man I met in the Vietnamese city of Haiphong last week was not one of the 51 boat people Timothy Raison and I had gone to interview, but a 68-year-old retired major who had fought the French at Dien Bien Phu and the Americans throughout the Vietnam war. He was a real nationalist: intensely proud of his country and its ability to come through all tribulations. There was more than his wistful beard to remind one of Ho Chi Minh.

We came upon him by accident when looking for a fishing family of eight who had crossed to Hong Kong in their own boat with 20 others on June 10, 1988, arriving there 10 days later. They returned home, boatless, on December 12, 1989. We went down a series of narrow lanes between overcrowded houses, and dozens of children, dogs and chickens. Up some steps we came to a two-room house where we were told that the fisher family was living rent-free with the major and his family. He was not surprised to see us as he had heard of our visit on the BBC World Service news in Vietnamese at 6 am that day.

We drove 25 miles, to a seaside village. Then a fair walk

along a narrow dyke to the little house. Children crowded round us as the family told their story without any officials present, a rule we insisted on.

It was similar to the stories of the other fisher families we had met. They left in the hope of improving their living standards. They were not fleeing from fear of oppression and were not told until some months later in Hong Kong that they had to return to Vietnam. They might have volunteered to return had they known about the voluntary repatriation programme but no one seems to have told them.

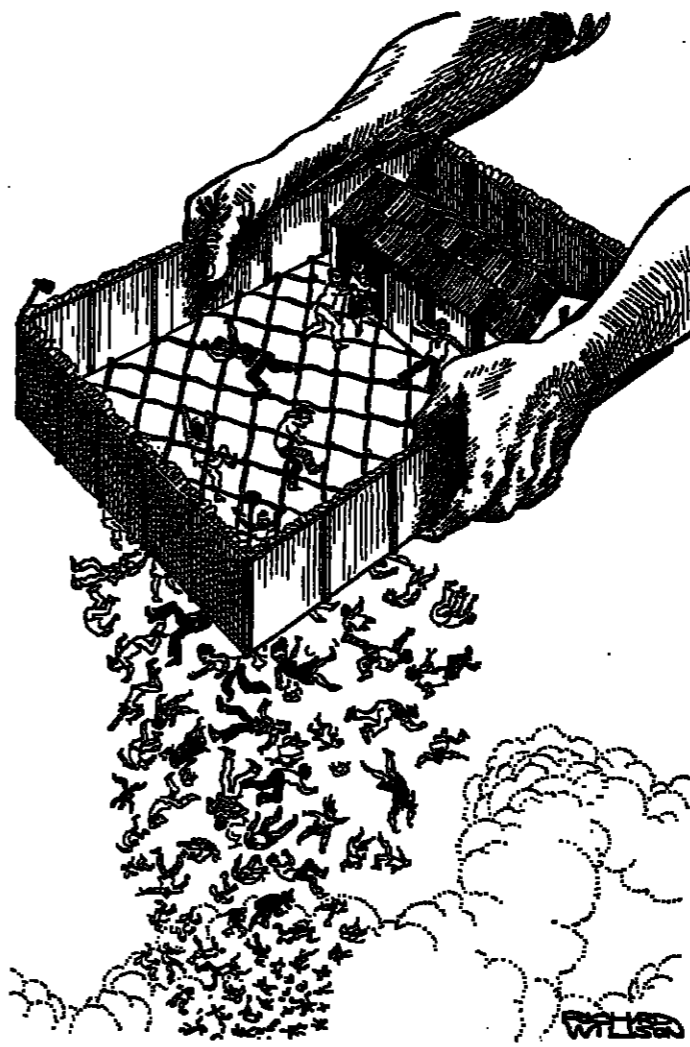
On December 12 they were flown back to Hanoi with £100 which had already been spent on food and clothing. Although anxious to work, the head of the family could do nothing until he could pay for another boat. He had no skill other than fishing. The major was intensely proud of his country. He told us that in spite of its continuing poverty Vietnam was "getting better every day and in every way". He was not one to moan or ask favours, but in my view Vietnam has had a very real deal.

His people lived through long years of war which devastated the economy, with no compensatory help from the Americans, who dropped on Vietnam more destructive power than suffered by the whole of Europe during the Second World War. When the boat people started to leave Vietnam in 1975 they were welcomed with open arms. No questions were asked. The 1979 UN Geneva Conference decided that whatever happened elsewhere, all Vietnamese who braved stormy seas and pirates would be resettled in the Western world. More than 900,000 were found homes in the US,

Canada, Australia, France, Britain and elsewhere.

In 1987 everything changed. There had accumulated in camps in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand about 35,000 long-stay cases — mainly unaccompanied, poorly educated men who were not an economic asset. And in the late 1980s the vast proportion came from the North, thus with no record of being "pro-American". Nobody wanted them. Instead of refugees, they became migrants. The third factor was that, denied aid by the world community, and with a communist government which then resisted all economic change, many more took to the boats. Arrivals increased from 19,500 in 1986 to 28,000 in 1987 and 45,500 in 1988, and the year-end caseload of refugees awaiting resettlement went up from 31,500 in 1986 to 61,000 in 1988.

Britain and Hong Kong decided that Vietnamese asylum-seekers would no longer automatically be accepted as refugees but would be subjected to the Refugee Determination Procedure (screening). Thailand was much tougher and adopted a policy of "redirection". Vietnamese boats were driven out to sea — and some went to Hong Kong, adding to the build-up of unwanted asylum-seekers there. Members of Asean (the Association of South-east Asian Nations) then insisted that if the West would not admit Vietnamese for settlement, they were not prepared to act as a staging centre to nowhere. So at the second Geneva conference last June, the decision was taken that those not accepted as refugees must go home.



There is nothing intrinsically immoral about this. I believe it to be fundamentally important to maintain as clearly as possible the status and rights of refugees who are fleeing from persecution. Those outside that category are migrants.

If all migrants were accepted as refugees, the status of refugee would become meaningless. Since 1960 the world community has accepted responsibility for the protection of genuine refugees. That is the main *raison d'être* of the UNHCR, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Screening is appropriate providing it is fair. I agree with a

UNHCR official in Bangkok who told me: "Even if there is only one genuine refugee among a thousand Vietnamese asylum-seekers, his right to present his case must be preserved." This requires the preservation of the principle of first asylum, which is threatened by an increasing number of leading people in Hong Kong — and some in Britain.

In Vietnam there is a trend toward greater freedom and economic change. Those with good reason to migrate legally, such as those with close relatives overseas, can do so under the Orderly Departure Programme, administered by the Vietnamese

government with the help of the UNHCR. About 50,000 left under this programme in 1989. Those who are refused refugee status should return under an Orderly Return Programme.

The essential prerequisites are that there be no discrimination against those who return, that their return be effectively monitored, and that the world community provide some resources to help the resettlement programme to work humanely.

Note the travel dates of the family befriended by the major. When they left Vietnam they would have been accepted as refugees under the 1979 accord. When they arrived in Hong Kong 10 days later the rules had changed and they joined the queue to be screened. They had to wait months before knowing their fate, and were subjected to further delay before being returned.

They did not know about the change of rules, nor did they know they could sign a form to return home. And now they are back they are without a boat, which is their only means of independent living.

For me the most important point of what I saw and heard concerns Washington. No longer should Vietnam be punished for having defeated the United States, 15 years ago. The Americans have paid nothing to compensate for war damage; they refuse an aid programme and have successfully twisted the arms of other Western nations, including Britain, to do the same. They accept no Vietnamese from the north for settlement and they place every conceivable obstacle in the way of an orderly return programme. This is sheer obstruction.

Money is needed for economic development and resettlement and also for a permanent monitoring presence to ensure that those sent back are well treated. This task should be entrusted to the UNHCR, which has long and valuable experience.

Lord Ennals was Minister of State at the Foreign Office, 1974-76, and Social Services Secretary, 1976-79.

Basic steps to restore Britain's good name

Wesley Gryn outlines Amnesty's proposals for the refugee camps

Amnesty International has just published the memorandum on the Vietnamese boat people which it sent earlier this month to Mrs Thatcher and the Governor of Hong Kong, Sir David Wilson. It concentrates on two main areas of concern.

First, it seeks to ensure that those really at risk of persecution if returned to Vietnam are not repatriated. The collective world conscience would rest more easily if it felt confident that Hong Kong's screening process actually identified and protected all such individuals. Secondly, that any repatriation of those ultimately judged not to be refugees is carried out in a way that protects their physical integrity and dignity. Last month's operation, conducted in the dead of night without independent observers, provided little assurance in this regard.

On screening, Amnesty wants legal assistance to be provided at every stage in the procedure, the

development of a well trained body of professionals to carry out the screening interviews, improved interpretation facilities and the opportunity for asylum seekers to check and correct their interview record. It also asks for changes in the appeals procedure. At present appeals are heard in secret, with neither the asylum seeker nor a legal representative present, no reason is given for the decision. The criticism comes not only from Amnesty International. David Ward, president of the Law Society, recently wrote to Mr Hurd calling for a stay on further repatriation until the screening process had been reviewed and appropriate improvements made. Such improvements would clearly require additional funds, but the British and Hong Kong governments have already created the skeleton of a viable procedure

and would be foolish not to pay the marginal costs of fleshing it out to make it fully acceptable under international law.

The second main area of concern — the physical protection of asylum seekers undergoing any eventual forcible repatriation — arises from a number of incidents, described in the Amnesty report, in which members of the Hong Kong Police and the Correctional Services Department (CSD) are alleged to have assaulted and otherwise used undue force on asylum seekers. The CSD and the police share responsibility for running the camps where the boat people are held and are likely to play a key role in carrying out any forcible repatriation.

Amnesty International accuses officials of these agencies not only of assault but also of trying to cover up the incidents.

At Hei Ling Chau, for example, which Mr Hurd visits today, an internal CSD inquiry into allegations that more than 100 asylum seekers were beaten and kicked when made to pass through a CSD gauntlet found "no evidence whatsoever to support the claims of the excessive use of force". However, an independent inquiry conducted by two respected justices of the peace found that unnecessary force had been used and that government medical officers had apparently conspired to suppress the evidence.

Then there was the forcible removal by CSD officers of 48 "screened-out" asylum seekers from Chi Ma Wan detention centre who were forcibly moved to Phoenix House in the early hours of October 31. They told Amnesty International's delegates they had been grabbed in strangleholds with noses and

mouths squeezed shut, kicked and stamped on and dragged along the ground, their arms twisted in extremely painful positions. At least three of them said they had been rendered unconscious by "pressure point control techniques" applied to a point on their heads near the ear.

This incident takes on particular significance because most of those transferred were subsequently among those forcibly repatriated to Vietnam on December 12. The circumstances of this transfer could perhaps explain the fear expressed by one returnee to a *Times* reporter in Vietnam: "People who didn't want to go, who tried to stay behind, were pointed at with those sticks and threatened... people moved only because of fear."

No independent inquiry has been held into these allegations and the CSD has, again, main-

tained that there was no undue use of force. Because of these and similar incidents, which have ramifications for any proposed programme of forced repatriation, Amnesty International makes a number of recommendations on the investigation and remedy of ill-treatment, the protection of victims and witnesses from intimidation, the training of personnel involved in such operations and the development of clear guidelines on the use of force in such circumstances.

The recommendations being put forward are pragmatic and can be easily implemented. Such measures will pay important dividends not only for the dignity and protection of the asylum seekers but for the dignity and international reputation of the people and the governments of Britain and Hong Kong.

Wesley Gryn, a lawyer, returned recently from an Amnesty International mission to Hong Kong.

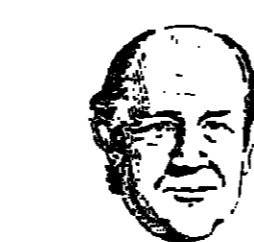
Etymology, meet entomology

Latin, and spelt that way by Pliny the Elder (AD 23-79), almost certainly to impress his newly adopted son, Pliny the Younger (62-114). Who, like you, had never heard of Euphorbia. Amazing, now, to think that little Pliny did not know that Euphorbia was the court physician to Juba II, king of Mauretania, but there you are. It's a funny old world. As a matter of fact, I don't know he was either, until one of my pets ran away. More accurately, jumped away, but I shall come to that later.

First things first. There would be no point going on at all, if you were not to be told that the king of Mauretania was so impressed

with his GP that he named a plant after him, which Middle Englishmen decided to spell *euphorbia*. We can be quite frighteningly nationalistic when it comes to loan-words: I once saw *gatto* written on a cakeshop window in Stanmore.

More to the point, take *spurge*. *Spurge* is how Middle Englishmen transcribed the French *espurge* making it a fine, almost exemplary, English word for cleansing the body of impurities. You can hear Middle Englishmen using it, can you not, rural quacks closing the door upon some groaning bedchamber and telling the goodwife, "Im'll be roight as rain, now ov'e a-spurged 'im."



ALAN COREN

And let me say, before you begin throwing things, that this is no mere digression. For *spurge* itself — the item used for spurring — is a plant of the genus *euphorbia*. Its fruit contains an acid milky juice

possessing medicinal properties, some of which clearly did Juba II of Mauretania no end of good, otherwise Dr Euphorbus would have been out on his ear sharpish, and I should today be inconsolably glib over the likely fate of Harry Wharton, my Mexican jumping-bean.

Harry Wharton came into my life on Christmas morning, courtesy of my daughter. He came in a little glass phial, along with Bob Cherry, Johnny Bull, Frank Nugent, and Hurrey Janset Ram Singh. I shook them out on to the breakfast table, and was about to eat them when Harry Wharton, the largest, began rolling around. As I watched, the rest began

rolling around, too. Quite uncanny, and slightly pitiful, for a most bizarre reason: my maternal grandfather had been, in his youth, a pavement escape-artist of no talent whatever, and had finally given up struggling to get out of sacks in the Mile End Road in order to be a hardly more successful barber; and, watching these five beans now, I could not forbear the poignant recollection of his failure.

I put them in a bowl, and they continued to hop about so merrily that I had no qualms about leaving them when I went to France on December 28. When I came back last Monday, there were only four there. The largest,

Harry Wharton, had gone. I searched the room, but there was no trace. Distraught — I saw it blindly hopping about Cricklewood, trying, like a peculiar hybrid of Lassie and my grandfather, to get back to Acapulco — I began that chain of inquiry whose fruits lie strewn above.

I learned that the Mexican bean grows on euphorbiaceous plants, and jumps only because concealed within it is the larva of a tortricid moth (*L. tortrix* = twist), which writhes more frantically the closer it comes to maturity. Harry Wharton, the Royal Entomological Society concluded, has in all probability lurched from his bowl and burst from his bean. He has become a Cricklewood Jumping Moth. Relief, then; but fresh anxieties, too: could he survive, without his natural habitat? Relax, said Kew, England is full of spurge.

هَذَا مِنْ أَلْصَل

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AFTER THE POGROM

Mob violence against Armenians living in the Soviet republic of Azerbaijan is forcing Mr Gorbachov to transpose what has hitherto remained a political problem on to the military plane. The massacres have now rendered unavoidable a strong reinforcement of the military forces in this intractable region. The Armenians believe that the hideous lynchings in Baku could be the prelude to another massacre on the scale of the genocide which their beleaguered nation suffered 75 years ago at the hands of the Azeris' co-religionists in Turkey.

If reports from the Transcaucasian republics are to be believed, a complete breakdown of law and order occurred some time ago, with Armenian vigilantes replacing the forces of the State as the only protection available to isolated villages. That the Armenian "ghetto" in Baku should have been abandoned by the security forces last Saturday suggests an even more serious abdication of sovereignty by the Soviet authorities.

Fear of the Islamic peoples which virtually surround Armenia is, apart from force, the only adhesive which has hitherto bound Yerevan to Moscow. If the Kremlin leaves Armenia in the lurch, self-defence and secession are almost certain to be the consequences. A military solution is now the only one that has a chance of averting wholesale massacres which would shatter Soviet prestige in Armenia forever.

If the Azeri-Armenian conflict were Mr Gorbachov's only problem, he might just be able to isolate and contain it. However, it has become acute just as the other republics of the Union, too, are in open revolt. The Baltic states, Moldavia, and Ukraine are all in the process of extracting their independence in varying degrees. In Mongolia the leading role of the Communist Party is threatened; in the other Islamic republics, the Azerbaijani cause is cheered to the echo.

That cause, if victorious, might bring about Iranian condominium, accompanied by a

crusade against the Western influences by which Mikhail Gorbachov's reforming mission stands or falls. These are demands impossible for Moscow to appease and they are loaded with menace for the Armenians.

For the moment, the Soviet Government's priority must be to stop the pogroms. In the longer run, a settlement satisfactory to all the Islamic republics will have to be found.

Such a settlement, if it is to stop short of the disintegration of the Soviet Union, will be virtually impossible unless further Marxist-Leninist baggage is hurled overboard. An Islamic theocracy would be intolerable to the tens of millions of Russian settlers in the eastern and southern republics.

In order to deal with these life and death questions at home, Mr Gorbachov has already liquidated many of his liabilities across the globe. Talks began yesterday in Prague on the gradual removal of the substantial Soviet forces which were "temporarily" stationed there in 1968. It is still widely assumed in the West that Soviet troops will conduct an orderly, phased withdrawal over many years, within the framework of the CFE (Conventional Forces in Europe) talks in Vienna, and in conjunction with corresponding reductions in NATO forces.

Yet the implications of martial law in Azerbaijan for Soviet policy elsewhere are profound. To be sure, Moscow has many divisions, but the Soviet Union's resources could not sustain the gigantic burdens in Central Europe if conflicts of the kind now erupting in Transcaucasia were to spread elsewhere inside the Soviet borders.

Indeed, Mr Gorbachov must seek to prevent them at all costs. Preventive measures would, however, require a concentration of Soviet efforts at home quite incompatible with the great armies of occupation stationed abroad to which the West has become accustomed. The Red Army may retreat to Moscow far sooner than anybody supposed.

INCIDENT IN BELFAST

Governments faced with incidents of the kind in which three men were shot dead by plainclothes soldiers in Belfast on Saturday are prone to say that they are not operating a "shoot-to-kill" policy. It is understandable and right that their spokesmen should make clear the difference between terrorists and security forces: the latter are licensed to use force by an elected government. They are also defending soldiers and policemen against the accusation that they are "executing" suspects without good cause.

Yet this stance avoids the issue at the heart of such rows. Soldiers and policemen in Northern Ireland are equipped with lethal force for a good and simple reason: their lives are in danger without it. They are liable to find themselves, with and without warning, in situations in which they may face experienced and well-equipped opponents who are also armed. This description can do no justice to the unique quality of the decision which has to be made by a soldier or policeman who confronts a terrorist.

A decision has to be made in a fraction of a second about what kind of threat a suspect represents. Given the number of members of the security forces who have been killed on duty, soldiers and policemen have tended to err on the side of caution. A soldier who challenged a suspect terrorist in the Sperrin Mountains in 1980 was simply shot dead.

Terrorists — which is what the betting shop robbers dressed up to look like — are ready to behave with complete ruthlessness. Security forces have to be ready, in defence of themselves and others, to act with equal ruthlessness. If necessary, they will shoot to kill. They should continue to be ready to do so.

The application of this principle is not confined to Northern Ireland, although sustained terrorist campaigns make its occurrence there more likely. Armed bank raiders have been shot dead by the police in both the

mainland United Kingdom and in the Irish Republic in the last 12 months.

After the split-second decision has been made, the law takes over. The long, sorry saga of the Stalker-Sampson inquiry established that there was *prima facie* evidence that policemen had obstructed the inquiry after the event which was supposed to discover whether the decision to open fire had been justified. It is to be hoped that such inquiries can now proceed normally.

They will allow for the possibility that actions by the security forces may, with hindsight, be mistaken. But the question such an inquiry has to ask is whether any mistake was avoidable in the circumstances.

Doubt has been cast on the official explanation that the soldiers happened on the betting shop raid by chance. Given the effectiveness and speed of their response to what they saw, it does sound implausible. The most likely explanation for any possible official deception is concealment of the fact that the security forces had prior information that a raid was to take place.

The argument on this point ends up going round in circles. In this case there is so far only assertion and inference on it and no hard evidence either way. Any confidential inquiry, formal or informal, would need to continue to the protection of intelligence information.

A final secondary question could usefully be addressed by the Government. Members of the public are likely to be made uneasy by eyewitness accounts which say that wounded men were then finished off as they lay on the ground. Some evidence given by soldiers at the Gibraltar inquest last year suggested that soldiers shooting to kill aim to immobilize their opponent completely as fast as possible. If this is the way that soldiers are now trained, there is no harm in the Government making that known.

THE CARP AND THE RABBIT

Of all the French political parties, the only one which is not currently at sixes and sevens is the National Front. The communists are falling apart. Although it is still five years until the next presidential election, several leading socialists are already trying Mitterrand's shoes for size. Now, to the gloom of their opponents, two senior Gaullists have mounted a comprehensive attack on their own party leadership. If it is sustained, it could make Mrs Thatcher's recent passage with Sir Anthony Meyer look like a vicarage tea party.

The Gaullists have still not pulled themselves together after losing the 1988 presidential election. Like the General himself, they are not good losers. They entertain strong, almost mystical, views about their central place in the scheme of things. They are not as other men are: the *Rassemblement pour la République* is not a mere party, it is a movement.

Gaullists tend to talk about Grand Designs and France's universal mission. This all sounded tremendous in the mouth of de Gaulle himself, with his highly developed sense of theatre and his powerful command of the language. The General, however, was called to even higher things 20 years ago, and nobody has since been able to impose himself on his followers with such massive authority.

The frustration of some of the younger RPR members flared up once before. At the time of last year's European elections, some of them rocked the boat by deciding to run an independent list. One of them was Michel Noir, who had been Trade Minister during the Chirac premiership. A book he published at the time was called *The Mammoth Hunt*, and the application was crudely plain — the place for a two-time loser like Chirac was in some sort of elephants' graveyard.

The challenge mounted this week is of a very different order. M Philippe Séguin, a former

Social Affairs Minister, is very much on the left of the movement. M Charles Pasqua, on the other hand, Minister of the Interior under M Chirac, is a robust right-winger who, at the time of the last presidential election, advocated collaboration with the National Front. Although both men see themselves as Gaullist populists, it is an improbable political alliance. The party's secretary-general, who clearly feels himself in the firing line along with M Chirac, thought that it flew in the face of nature — a marriage, he said, between a carp and a rabbit.

The joint Pasqua-Séguin declaration asserted that the RPR had not yet regained its self-confidence. It was in danger of being dispossessed of that quintessentially Gaullist *idée de la France* of which it had always seen itself as the guardian. What they wished to see was their movement renewed, transformed and enlarged into a *Nouveau Rassemblement*.

Both men deny that they wish to get rid of M Chirac, although M Pasqua believes that he would broaden his appeal as a right-wing presidential candidate if he gave up the leadership of the RPR. M Séguin, a public servant before he entered politics, expresses his views more obliquely, and manages at times to sound like a Gallic version of R. A. Butler. Chirac, he says, is their best possible candidate for the presidency — "he might pass on the torch one day, but one can't snatch it from him". M Chirac should clearly watch his back.

His candid friends may for all that have done him a service. Pasqua was very much the kingmaker when Chirac became leader of the party. His sole ambition now, he said on television at the weekend, was to see his protégé "come out of his bunker" as Mayor of Paris and rediscover his old self. M Chirac may just have been sufficiently enraged by the events of the past week to do precisely that.

A 'sweetener' of extra fuel tax

From Mr Thomas E. Whittle
Sir, Having tried without success for several years, may I through your columns suggest to our new Chancellor, who may have to adopt a tight Budget stance, a popular sweetener which would cost the Exchequer nothing — a reform twice hinted at by the Public Accounts Committee. It is the oft-repeated urge to the Chancellor to transfer the tax element of vehicle excise duty (VED) to the fuel tax and the registration element to a strengthened annual MOT. The merits of this reform are overwhelming, viz.

1. Evasion of VED is apparently not difficult. Deterrence is costly and the penalties imposed by courts seem low. The cost to the revenue is at least £100 million a year — grossly unfair to honest drivers. Unlicensed cars are also liable to be uninsured and unroadworthy — a public danger.

2. In contrast, the tax on petrol and diesel is the cheapest by far to collect and is practically evasion-proof.

3. Positive identification of vehicles by authorised garages would be much more efficient than the present system. Since registration, with its concomitant proof of insurance and roadworthiness, relates to the car, a tamper-proof disc should be affixed, eliminating administratively costly refunds and showing clear evidence on the vehicle.

4. The extra fuel tax, based on average usage of, say, 300 gallons (1,364 litres) a year, should not exceed 33p a gallon, less if account is taken of eliminated evasion. About 66 per cent of motorists would pay about the same, but spread over the year.

Yours etc,
THOMAS E. WHITTLE,
19 Kidson Drive,
Maybole,
Ayrshire,
January 13.

To memory dear

From Mr Colin MacGregor
Sir, Now I have retired I have been looking through old papers and I have come across my school bills.

I went to Lancing College in September, 1933, and left five years later in July, 1938. I had an exhibition for £50 a year.

My school dues for the Christmas term, 1933, were £37 6s. 8d. The school dues for the summer term of 1938 were £37 6s. 8d. also.

This means the school dues for a whole year, including tuition and full board, were £162 — and for five years there was no change!

Surely the present generation must find these figures incredible.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN MACGREGOR,
3 Longacre Court,
21 Mayfield Road,
Sunderland,
Surrey.

Charity reform
From Sir Harold Haywood
Sir, In her article of January 3, Julia Nienberger suggests the Charities Aid Foundation's Grants Council as a way of distributing funds raised from a small tax surcharge. Not surprisingly other correspondents (January 5, 9) have objected to the idea of the foundation becoming a bureaucracy for distributing such funds.

In defence of the Charities Aid Foundation, of which I am a trustee and also chairman of its Grants Council, may I make it clear first that its members are drawn, in strict accordance with the trust deed, from a representative selection of charities. They make recommendations to trustees, who do not interfere in their decisions. It is an exceptionally fair, informed, and objective distribution system.

Furthermore, it is a system which is being increasingly used to help with special needs, most recently for the environment and Eastern Europe. Trustees have agreed to set up special funds for these purposes which are open to others to put money into or indeed apply to.

Therefore, despite the romantic emphasis on persons giving the aid, the best, it is just not possible for each of us to have the necessary knowledge to give effectively to the range of needs we are faced with. Special systems are required, which it is helpful to castigate as being bureaucratic.

A new source of stable funds would have much to commend it, particularly if those advising on who should get it were as informed and motivated as my Grants Council happens to be!

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD HAYWOOD,
Charities Aid Foundation,
48 Pembury Road,
Tonbridge,
Kent.

Juries on fraud
From Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC
Sir, May I support the view of Lord Benson in his letter to you (January 10) that for serious and complex fraud cases the jury is an entirely inappropriate tribunal for a civilised legal system.

It is true that at the heart of the trial verdict is the question of the accused's dishonesty, and no doubt jurors are as capable as the professionals would be of judging that. But, as Lord Benson rightly points out, the jury is inscrutable. It records the verdict without more ado. The absence of a reasoned decision not only deprives the accused of learning why he has been found guilty (or acquitted) — a basic right, I would have thought — but also renders the jury's decision much less susceptible to proper appellate review.

It is because a criminal appeal in the English legal system is so limited in its function that judicial correction of miscarriages of justice is so lacking.

Yours etc,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER,
2 Ripplevale Grove, NI.

Squirrel cull
From the General Secretary of the National Council for the Conservation of Plants & Gardens
Sir, Predictably there has been an outcry from animal lovers at the announcement by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (report, January 2) that they are culling their grey squirrel population. We must really think carefully before we indulge in such automatic reactions.

Kew is a botanic garden and not a public park. It exists, *inter alia*, to conserve plants from all over the world, many of which are endangered in their natural habitats.

my colleague, Adam Gretton (currently studying the Moroccan birds), has shown that habitat loss and highly selective hunting are responsible.

Your report was also mistaken about the disappearance of one of the three remaining curlews — it was actually seen (by an international twitcher) being shot, but not fatally, and a month later it is still hobbling about. The recent oil spillage along the coast of Morocco was in waters directly adjacent to the birds' wintering site and caused us much alarm for several days. Clearly the species hangs by a thread.

But for the past 18 months

Japan's lessons for UK industry

From the President, Institution of Production Engineers
Sir, The article by David Davis, MP, "Science too pure by far" (January 4), and the ensuing correspondence (January 8, 12, 15) is highly pertinent. As the UK's main manufacturing engineering institution, we have long held that lack of a balanced R & D programme is one of the main reasons why Europe has lost significant market share to world competitors, notably Japan — and this in spite of the fact that there is often technical comparability between European and Japanese products.

As worried industrialists sought for an explanation of their loss of market share, it became progressively clear that past R & D strategies had focused too narrowly on the science and technology of products whilst neglecting economic manufacturing-systems requirements. Too many engineers were concerned with technical excellence rather than applying technology to generate profits for the enterprise.

The R & D culture has become too concerned with the creation of knowledge at the expense of the application of knowledge to wealth creation. Over-production of scientists and under-production of engineers by universities and polytechnics exacerbated the problem. Japanese manufacturing industry, besides having three times as many engineers in total, has one manufacturing-development engineer for every product-developer, compared with one to 10 in the UK.

Half of Japanese schoolchildren are educated in general technical schools up to the age of 18. In industry there is considerable emphasis on training in up-to-date engineering and systems skills for all levels, including graduates. These all help to shape a national interest in technology and the determination to be successful in its application.

In Europe research into manufacturing systems, processes, and machinery has been neglected in many industries, and there has been over-expectation of the impact of electronics and computer-based manufacturing technology implanted in isolation from many other supporting elements of the

business system. Fortunately for the UK, the tide is starting to turn, although there is still a long way to go. The creation of extra places for new manufacturing-systems engineering courses is one of the most important Government initiatives in higher education in recent years.

Additionally, the Government's determination to emphasise science education as a key part of the national curriculum will help create a population with a thirst for science and technology and its application in the broadest sense to the creation of national wealth. Yours faithfully,

F. TURNER, President,
The Institution of Production Engineers,
Rochester House,
66 Little Ealing Lane, W5,
January 15.

From Dr P. D. J. Wetzman
Sir, There is a confusion in David Davis's attack on "pure science research". By definition, "applied science" can only flourish from a strong "pure science" base.

Certainly, the progression and harnessing of knowledge from pure, via applied, to the emergence of new products — technology transfer — is a process in which Britain needs to become more skilled. But it is a quite different process from that of basic scientific investigation; it requires different skills and awarenesses and is not especially the forte of our able young scientists.

If Britain's extraordinary success with Nobel prizes is not reflected in comparable technological and economic prowess, it is hardly logical to put the blame on investment in basic science.

For all the whingeing that goes on, Britain is still an advanced civilised society with an enviable cultural heritage and commitment. Part of that rests on our success in science which, like our assets in national art treasures and collections, cannot be assessed strictly in terms of immediate and tangible gains.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WETZMAN
(Dean of Science),
South Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education,
Colchester Avenue,
Cardiff, South Glamorgan.

Price of justice

From Sir Honour Judge Willcock, QC
Sir, When Mr Kilroy-Silk writes "Brute realities of 'freedom'" (January 5) that "the reality is that only the rich can buy the best education and health care" I am sure that we can all agree. But when he goes on to assert "that justice is not available for the poor" he may be writing exciting journalism, but it is simply not true.

Four hundred or more circuit judges and countless hundreds of magistrates are daily listening to the problems of the poor, not just the offences of which they may stand charged, but the problems of their marriages, their cohabitations, their children, tenancies and mortgages, wrongful dismissals, troubles with neighbours, problems with debt repayments, and so on.

A host of social workers, probation officers, solicitors and barristers attend to their legal problems. They are almost, to a man, legally-aided and, unlike non-assisted persons, if they should lose the case they bring or that is brought against them, they seldom pay a penny towards the cost of the court proceedings, which is footed by the taxpayer.

This, I think, fairness and justice so far as any of us are capable of administering it. The people to whom justice is not available are those falling between poor and rich, since legal aid is not available to them, save on unaffordable terms.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH WILLCOCK,
Queen Elizabeth Building,
Second Floor, Temple, E.C.4.

Gallery parties

From the Head of Education, National Gallery
Sir, I am happy to be able to reassure Mr Bernard Dunstan (January 9). School parties leave the National Gallery by 3 p.m., allowing the individual visitor ample time, before 6 p.m. closing, in which to pursue the solitary study of paintings.

Even earlier in the day, however, groups of small children spend no more than 10 minutes or so in front of any single picture — never "the duration of their lesson". Close individual consideration of paintings is thus possible, with perhaps a little flexibility, at any time of day.

The gallery cherishes all its visitors, children and adults, in groups and singly. I am sure that, upon consideration, Mr Dunstan would not wish us to limit opportunities for all children to acquire that love of art which he himself enjoys.

Yours sincerely,
ERIKA LANGMUIR,
Head of Education,
National Gallery,
Trafalgar Square, WC2.

Adam Gretton has been co-ordinating a nine-nation project to locate and protect key sites for the slender-billed curlew right across the Mediterranean, eastern Europe, and the Soviet Union. This work, which is funded by several Western bird-protection societies, including the RSPB, is the bird's last hope.

Yours sincerely,
NIGEL COLLAR
(Deputy Director),
International Council for Bird Preservation,
32 Cambridge Road,
Girton, Cambridge,
January 7.

Easier access to environment law

From Mr Richard Buxton
Sir, This country is awash with laws which supposedly protect the environment. The new Environmental Protection Bill promises to strengthen the armoury. Laws will, however, remain inadequate so long as the public continues to find it hard to go to court to protect the environment in which we and our fellow creatures live.

The new Bill does allow a scrap of easier public supervision (on litter). For the most part, however, we just have to trust public authorities to apply and enforce our environmental laws diligently. Unfortunately they so often appear to lack adequate staff, funds, or even the will to do so.

Nor is the established system always fair. For example, decisions of planning authorities (which often have serious implications for the environment) can only be challenged as of right by disappointed developers, and not by others who seek to question them.

Individuals and organisations who seek help from the courts to keep authorities up to the mark face two serious hindrances. First, they must show a "sufficient interest" in a problem for the court to hear them. This means some specific relationship to the problem or a statutory right to complain. As opponents of development of the Rose Theatre found out, it is not good enough simply to care about something, to suspect a decision has been taken unlawfully, or to know that laws are not being enforced.

Second, once inside the court the applicant who loses risks paying the other side's costs. This is a well-known risk of litigation (except for the legally-aided) when powerful opponents can price out the less well-off. It is particularly oppressive, though, in environmental cases which promote public and not personal interests.

In the United States it is easy to have standing in the courts and each side usually pays its own costs. To advocate change is — yes — to suggest we should become more American in these matters. It has taken a decade or two to see the light, but we are now (just) beginning to follow the American lead in environmental thought and practice. The courts have had an important role in shaping that over there. They should be allowed to do so here.

The Government has an opportunity, in the forthcoming White Paper on the environment, to address these basic issues. If the law itself is going properly to reflect the needs of the new environmental age, so must it be feasible for the public in whose interests that law exists to see it put into practice, and fairly.

It may be wrong to become as liberal on these points as other countries, but the balance should at least be redressed so that it is easier to have standing before the courts, and less risky on legal costs. We all live in one world and changes will be in the long-term interests of developers, polluters, authorities, and the greenest alike.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BUXTON,
Mills & Reeve (Solicitors),
Francis House,
112 Hills Road, Cambridge,
January 13.

Quick passports

From Mr W. B. Evans
Sir, So Mr Marsh (January 13) had to wait 18 days for his new passport. On December 28 I entrusted to my mother-in-law, on her return to Wales, passport applications on behalf of two of my children and myself, and my wife's passport for deletion of the children's details. These she delivered to the Newport Passport Office on December 29. We received all four passports in the post on January 3 — one-and-a-half working days later!

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM BRAYN EVANS,
As from: 26 Lynwood Drive,
Worcester Park, Surrey.

Indirect mail

From Mr Barry Rockhill
Sir, This morning I received from Zimbabwe a letter promising me that I can save 25 per cent on my postage costs by the simple method of posting all my letters from Harare! It couldn't be simpler, the promoters of this service promise. Just deliver all my correspondence to their agent in London, who will have them sent overnight by courier to Harare. There they will be franked, posted, and be back in Britain within four or five days.

Their letter to me was posted in Harare on January 4 and arrived by first post today. Might I suggest that the Post Office contact their colleagues in Zimbabwe to discover how it's done.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY ROCKHILL
(Managing Director),
Maneko Ltd.,
19 Woodfield Road, Paddington, W9,
January 8.

From Mr Negley Harte
Sir, Writing from the London School of Economics, Professor Theo Barker (January 8) complains about long postal addresses. Am I right in supposing that he has the shortest internationally-recognisable postal address?

When I was a student at the school years ago I recall getting letters from the United States addressed simply "L. S. E." Yours faithfully,
NEGLEY HARTE,
University College London,
Department of History,
Gower Street, WC1.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 15: The Hon Ramon Hnatyshyn (Governor-General designate of Canada) and Mrs Hnatyshyn have left Sandringham.

By command of The Queen, Admiral Sir Andrew Lewes (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Essex) was present at Standed Airport - London this afternoon upon the departure of the Hon Ramon Hnatyshyn (Governor-General designate of Canada) and Mrs Hnatyshyn and bade farewell on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 15: This morning, The Princess Royal, President, the Missions to Seamen, received the Reverend Canon W. J. D. Down on relinquishing his appointment as General Secretary.

Afterwards Her Royal High-

ness, President, the Missions to Seamen, attended a lunch at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, Knightsbridge, London.

In the afternoon, The Princess Royal, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, attended a seminar at the London Hospital, Whitechapel, London.

Mrs Richard Carew Pole was in attendance.

In the evening, The Princess Royal, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, attended a dinner at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall, London.

Mrs Malcolm Innes was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

January 15: The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, this afternoon received Lieutenant Colonel A. L. D. de H. Larpen on assuming command of the 3rd Battalion and Lieutenant Colonel D. James on relinquishing the appointment.

Birthdays today

Mr Colin Banks, graphic designer, 58; Sir Alastair Blair, former Writer to the Signet, 82; Air Marshal Sir Robert Craven, 74; Sir Robin Dunn, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 72; Professor Sir Peter Hirsch, metallurgist, 65; Professor A.M. Hunter, theologian, 84; Sir Jack Layden, chairman, Association of Metropolitan Authorities, 64; Professor Elaine Murphy, professor of psycho-geriatrics, 43; Mr R.L. Ormond, director, National Maritime Museum, 51; Miss N.S. Peppard, race relations consultant, 68; Mr K.H. Shackleton, artist and naturalist, 67; Professor Sir Frederick Stewart, geologist, 74; Lord Thomson of Monifieth, 69; Mr Cliff Thorburn, snooker player, 42; Miss Christine Truman, tennis player, 49; Lady Vazey, art critic, 52; Professor Sir William Wade, QC, former Master, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, 72; Mr Michael White, theatre and film producer, 54.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess of Wales, as Patron of Help the Aged, will visit the Senior Leisure Care Centre, Universities Settlement in East London, Toyne Hall, at 10.15; and will visit the Outset employment scheme, for disabled people at the Globe Town Neighbourhood Centre, 62 Roman Road, E2, at 11.00.

The Princess Royal will attend a dinner given by the Thirty Club of London at Claridge's hotel at 7.15.

Princess Margaret will attend a private view of the Frans Hals exhibition at the Royal Academy, at 7.00 in aid of Crucifix and the Haemophilia Society.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Sir Ian Hamilton, general, Corfu, 1853; Sir John Forbes-Robertson, actor-manager, London, 1853; Andre Michelin, pioneer of mass production of motor tyres, 1853; Edward Gordon Craig, stage designer and director, Sevenage, Herefordshire, 1872; Robert Service, poet, Preston, 1874; Ethel Merman, singer, New York 1909.

DEATHS: Edward Gibson, historian, London, 1794; Sir John Moore, died of his wounds at the battle of Corunna, 1809; Leo Delibes, composer, Paris, 1891; Arnold Böcklin, painter, Fiesole, Italy, 1901; Arturo Toscanini, conductor, New York, 1957.

School announcements

King William's College, Isle of Man
Spring term began on January 12. David Solly and Winifred Cunniff continue as Head of School and Senior Girl respectively.

The Lord Bishop will conduct the Confirmation Service on February 25. On March 5, Group Captain I.S. Corbett, Officer Commanding Royal Air Force, Lyneham, will visit the CCF Contingent. The Adrian Hookham Sevens Tournament for preparatory schools will take place on March 11. The CCF Annual Inspection, on March 19, will be conducted by OKW.

Stear Admiral J. Carine, Chief of Staff to C-in-C Naval Home Command, The Chapel Choir will sing the services in Ripon Cathedral over the weekend March 24/25. Term ends on March 29. The London OKW Dinner is on March 16, at the Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, W1. Details: H.G. Wallis 0753 887700.

The Royal Naval School
The girls returned for the Spring Term on January 11. Term ends on March 26. Half Term February 16-20. The 150th Anniversary Service of Thanksgiving will be held in Guildford Cathedral, at 3 pm on Sunday, March 25, 1990. Summer Term will begin on April 19.

Dinners

College of Occupational Therapists
The Princess Royal, Patron of the College of Occupational Therapists, was the guest of honour at a reception and dinner held yesterday at the Royal Automobile Club to mark the opening of a conference organized by the college, the RAC and the Department of Neurosurgery at the London Hospital. She was greeted by Mr Jeffrey Rose, chairman of the club, Lord Ennals, president of the college, Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, vice-president, Mrs Margaret Ellis, chairman, and Professor E.S. Watkins.

Chatham Dining Club
Mr John Yaxley, Hong Kong Commissioner, was the principal guest at a Chatham Dining Club dinner held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel. Mr Jeremy Drax presided.

Correction
Princess Michael of Kent celebrated birthday yesterday, not Prince Michael as stated.

Rice poses uncertain threat to the greenhouse effect

Methane gas is a potent contributor to the greenhouse effect, and rice paddies may produce a quarter of all the methane emitted into the atmosphere. But this statement hides a tangle of uncertainties, as five German researchers reveal in the *Journal of Geophysical Research* (vol 94, pp 16,405-16,416).

The scientists show how methane emission depends on soil temperature in the rice paddies, modified by the addition of fertilizers.

Although carbon dioxide is much more abundant in the atmosphere, methane is more efficient at trapping heat, preventing the escape of excess heat into space. Hence the increasing concern with methane production worldwide.

Unlike carbon dioxide, produced by burning fossil fuels such as coal and oil, much of the methane in the atmosphere is produced by oxygen-intolerant bacteria. These bacteria thrive in swamps, and the stomachs of the world's ever-growing herds of cattle. They are particularly fond of the waterlogged soils used for growing rice.

But estimates of the total amount of methane from rice paddies have varied widely. The first, published in 1964, was 190,000 million kilograms a year. By the mid-1970s, the favoured figure was 280,000 million kg. These estimates were based on laboratory work

on soil samples from Japanese rice paddies.

The first field measurements, from California, were published in 1981: extrapolation of these data suggested a smaller rate of emission: 59,000 million kg. But the Californian measurements were made only sporadically, and a continuous record of methane emission from a Spanish rice field indicated a range of values, between 39,000 and 59,000 million kg. But work in Italy suggested higher values, between 70,000 and 170,000 million kg.

This variation led the researchers from the Fraunhofer Institute for Atmospheric Chemistry in Garmisch-Partenkirchen to try to isolate exactly what influences methane emission, starting with a series of careful experiments in an Italian rice paddy.

Three years later, the team found that the temperature in the bacteria-rich soil around the rice plants' roots was the key factor. The warmer the soil, the faster the metabolic rates of the bacteria, and the more methane they produced.

In addition to daily variation, methane production tracked the developing crops with the seasons. Unfertilized paddies exude a lot of methane in late spring, when the bacteria digest composting rice straw from the previous crop. The growing roots of the rice

OBITUARIES

GORDON JACKSON

Modest professional who found TV fame

Gordon Jackson, OBE, the Scottish actor best known for his portrayal of the pugnacious butler, Hudson, in the television series *Upstairs, Downstairs*, died on January 14 at the age of 66 after a short illness.

In a long career, which started when he was a teenager and embraced the theatre, television and the cinema, Jackson was never quite a star but considerably more than the jobbing actor that he liked to regard himself as.

He appeared in more than 60 films, played a variety of stage parts from Shakespeare and Ibsen to Agatha Christie and after *Upstairs, Downstairs* he had a second major success on television as head of the anti-terrorist squad in *The Professionals*.

Yet he always took a very modest view of his ability and his achievements. He even claimed that he did not enjoy acting and he would never watch his own performances on the screen. He suffered more than most from the actor's fears and insecurities and regarded every performance as an ordeal.

That none of this showed says much for his professionalism and dedication. Though never pretending to a wide range, he was a thoroughly polished and reliable actor who may have worried about his craft but seldom let himself or his audience down.

Gordon Cameron Jackson was born on December 19, 1923, the youngest of five children whose father taught printing in Glasgow. He was educated at Hillhead High School in Glasgow but left at 15 to become an engineering draughtsman with Rolls-Royce.

At school he had been encouraged by a master to join a group of amateur actors and as a child he had broadcast in BBC radio plays. When Ealing Studios wanted a young Scottish actor to play a soldier in the film, *The Foreman Went to France*, the BBC suggested Jackson.

He was 17 and Rolls-Royce allowed him time off work because the film was considered part of the war effort. He appeared in other wartime films, including *Millions Like Us* and *San Demetrio, London*, while continuing with his job as a draughtsman but eventually decided to make acting his career.

He had repertory experience in Glasgow, Worthing and Perth before making his London stage debut in 1951 in the long running farce, *Seagulls Over Sorrento*. At the



same time he continued his association with Ealing Studios, where his most notable part was in the Scottish comedy, *Whisky Galore*.

In 1955 he played Ishmael in a famous London stage production by Orson Welles of Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*. During the 1960s he was Banquo to Alec Guinness's Macbeth at the Royal Court Theatre and was with Guinness again in Simon Gray's play, *Wise Child*.

Jackson's Horatio in Tony Richardson's 1969 production of *Hamlet* at the Round House won him the Clarence Derwent Award for best supporting actor and he made his New York debut in the same production, which was also filmed. In Canada he played Tesman in *Hedda Gabler* and in 1976 appeared at the Chichester Festival in the title role of *Noah* and as Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*.

By then he had notched up several dozen roles in the cinema and had moved from fresh-faced young soldiers to characters of calm maturity. The best of his later film parts were in *The Great Escape*, *The Ipcress File* and *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* in the 1960s and *The Shooting Party* in the 1980s.

But it was television that finally made him a household name with the launch of *Upstairs, Downstairs*, the saga

of a London family which charted the lives of both the masters and the servants. The series started in 1970, ran for six years, drew large audiences in Britain and throughout the world and was eventually seen by more than 300 million people.

The series had several leading characters but Jackson's Hudson, upright, conscientious and slightly pompous, was for many people the most memorable. The portrayal was Jackson's Royal Television Society's award for best actor in 1975.

Two years later he had another big success on television with *The Professionals*. Usually cast in sympathetic roles, Jackson here played the ruthless head of an anti-terrorist organization. Though frequently criticized for its violence, the series was unfailingly popular.

Jackson's later television work included leading parts in two series made in Australia, an adaptation of Nevill Shute's *Second World War* novel, *A Town Like Alice*, and a family saga, *My Brother Tom*, which was shown on Channel 4 in 1987.

Jackson married the actress, Rona Anderson, in 1951. He is survived by her and two sons. He was appointed OBE in 1979.

LAURENCE J. PETER

An ironical eye for mankind's shortcomings

Dr Laurence J. Peter, the Canadian-born academic whose book, *The Peter Principle* (1969), formulated the melancholy doctrine of the inevitability of incompetence in human affairs, died on January 14 in Palos Verdes, California. He was 70.

Peter's book, *The Peter Principle: Why Things Always Go Wrong* (co-written with an old friend and musical comedy writer, Raymond Hull) expounded the theory that problems generally occur in the administrative structure because the average employee is routinely promoted until he reaches a level beyond his competence. In a job he cannot cope with he becomes obstructive, a menace to himself and the organization he works for.

This principle, which condemned all corporations and bureaucracies as the victims of "rampant mediocrity," Peter claimed as "the key to the whole structure of civilization." Phenomena as diverse as the Vietnam War and the low quality of car production in Britain were blamed on it.

But it was not only the big corporations which took a hammering. Domestic and social life were equally prone to the plague of incompetence and failure. Thus, one would inevitably lose a sock every time one went to the local launderette with a pile of washing. While the party hostess was always doomed, by their very numbers, to invite a high enough proportion of bores to ruin the evening.

The delighted civilization he satirised rewarded Peter by buying eight million copies of his book which was translated into 30 languages. Publications as different as *The Wall Street Journal* and the *Morning Star* found extraordinary merit in its pages. The big corporations flooded him with job offers. But he turned them down, saying he did not want to rise to the level of his own incompetence.

Besides, he was by now a busy man. The "Peter Principle" industry was gathering momentum. In his garage Peter established a university which made its own awards. These included a No Bull Peace Prize ("because the Nobel Peace Prize keeps being awarded to people who have really nothing to do with peace") and a Peter University degree of Doctor of Competence. Recipients of the latter included Buckminster Fuller, who said it was the academic award he had waited for all his life, and a City of London gardener who waged a

one-man campaign against dog dirt on the streets.

Born in Vancouver on September 16, 1919, Peter taught at British Columbia University until 1966 when he left to teach at the University of Southern California.

He was able to retire in the year following publication of his book but he kept busy in spite of severe illnesses. He published many sequels to his first book, and in general enjoyed the ironies of life in a suburb of Palos Verdes which he described as being so reactionary the inhabitants were convinced President Reagan was a Communist agent.

Britain was a favourite field for his gloomy prognoses. The sheer incompetence of its public services fascinated him: the buses of one local authority which refused to stop in case they fell behind schedule; the rail network wishing its passengers a happy journey whether there were trains running or not.

Only his native Canada ("the chief national characteristic is dullness" he claimed) stolidly defied him to take the rise out of it, and he remained something of a prophet without honour there.

He leaves his widow, Irene.

PROFESSOR JOHN COULSON

Fundamental work in chemical engineering

Professor John Metcalfe Coulson, who has died at the age of 79, was one of the most influential chemical engineers of his time. His encyclopaedic text book *Chemical Engineering*, in six volumes, written with Professor Jack Richardson and constantly updated by his colleagues at Newcastle University, has been the standard text for all British, and many overseas students of chemical engineering since 1954.

John Coulson was educated at Clifton College and Christ's College Cambridge, where he read chemistry. He moved to study the new discipline of chemical engineering at Imperial College, London, where, after a spell at Woolwich Arsenal, he was appointed an assistant lecturer in 1939.

During the war he was seconded to the Ministry of Supply but returned to Imper-

ial College as lecturer and later reader. His practical experience gained during the war and his sharp, original mind made him a stimulating if occasionally waspish teacher. His research was in the mainstream of chemical engineering and always had a strong practical, even pragmatic, flavour.

In 1954 he was appointed professor and head of the new Department of Chemical Engineering in King's College in the University of Durham (later Newcastle University). Funds were tight but John Coulson used his many industrial contacts to help provide support for both undergraduate teaching and research. Under his leadership the department went from strength to strength.

His lectures were stimulating, if unorthodox, occasionally shooting off in all directions but always rigorous,

and his unrivalled knowledge of chemical engineering was only matched by his keen interest in, and time he spent on, the welfare of his students. He enthused his carefully selected staff but was not slow to point out any shortcomings he had observed and when he retired in 1975 all felt that a potent source of vigorous enthusiasm had gone.

He had the unusual distinction of being one of a pair of twins, both of whom were professors, his brother Charles holding a chair at Oxford.

He was awarded the Davis Medal of the Institution of Chemical Engineers in 1973 and an Honorary DSc of Heriot-Watt University where he spent a year building up a Department of Chemical Engineering. His first wife Dora died in 1961 and he is survived by his second wife Christine, two sons and a step-daughter.

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FREE BROCHURE

Social objectives must come first, firms told

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

Social goals should take priority over economic objectives in the conduct of British business, a Church of England committee stated yesterday.

The committee, which investigated the ethical questions arising from take-overs and acquisitions, concluded that Christians could not accept the view that "the free market determines everything."

The report, entitled *The Ethics of Acquisition*, published by the industrial and economic affairs committee of the Board for Social Responsibility of the General Synod yesterday, expressed concern that 1992 might lead to more mergers and take-overs.

"A heavy preponderance of merger activity, which may develop in 1992, gives rise to concerns about the influence of capitalism in the United Kingdom, especially when it is recognized that other economies, such as Germany and Japan, have certainly been successful without an acquisitions culture such as that to be found here", the report goes on.

Before preparing its report the

committee organized a conference for leading businessmen, whether done by acquisition or defence of the policy of acquisitions from Mr Peter Harper, associate director of Hanson, which is well-known for its policy of take-overs.

Mr Harper told them: "The function of the church and of Christians is to ensure that the wealth created by business, whether done by acquisition or whatever, is used for the benefit of humanity and the greater glory of God, and not used for some other purpose."

The duty of the Christian businessman was to act towards others as he would himself wish to be treated. "For example if people must be made redundant, there is a way of doing it so as to serve as much of their self-interest as possible."

The committee chairman, Mr Brian Green, formerly of National Westminster Bank, said the work done so far had revealed the need for a much broader study of the ethical issues involved in business, perhaps with a "European dimension."

Latest wills

Lady Barwick, of Sharow, Ripon, North Yorkshire - Valerie Ward, the actress - left estate valued at £650,621 net.

Mr Louis Abraham Scott, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, left estate valued at £1,256,359 net.

Luncheon

HM Government General Sir John Chapple, Chief of the General Staff, was host at a luncheon held yesterday at Admiralty House in honour of Lieutenant-General Rolf Binder, Chief of Training, Swiss Armed Forces.

SOME REVIEWS MAY BE REPRINTED FROM YESTERDAY'S LATER EDITIONS

THE ARTS

I want to tell you a story

TELEVISION
Sheridan Morley

Somewhere deep in the basement of the Television Centre, or so I have always believed, the BBC maintains a training school for lovable eccentrics. Perfectly ordinary people, devoid of mannerisms, funny walks, bizarre clothing or peculiarities of speech, are duly admitted, put through a rigorous programme of quirkiness, and then sent out on to the highways and byways as David Bellamy or Patrick Moore, or a woman who used to shoot at dogs.

One of the school's senior alumni is Alfred Wainwright, now 83. He is most famous for the fact that in a book called *The Pennine Way Companion*, published 20 years ago, he promised to stand a drink to anyone who could walk the 270 miles of that Way in a single journey.

Over subsequent editions, the offer has been reduced from a pint of beer to a mere half-pint, but even so has cost him something like £10,000, so one can only hope the book was a bestseller. At any event, Wainwright is now also available on television, and started last night a new BBC 2 series, *Coast to Coast Walk*.

The coasts in this case are those of Cumbria and Yorkshire, and lest Wainwright appear to be talking to himself all along the way, the BBC have sent him a minder. This is Eric Robson, who is inclined to refer to nearby mountains as "unbashed and unshamed", thereby suggesting a latterday Wordsworth in uneasy alliance with a boxing promoter.

Wainwright himself says very little. This may be because he is still worrying about all those free drinks he once offered (a subject madly never referred to in last night's film). Or it may be because decades of walking around the fells with a pipe stuck in his teeth have left him with very little of interest to relate.

As the film began, he told his companion to walk into the Irish Sea, an instruction Robson obeyed, though not for nearly long enough. "Britain's best-loved fell-walker" was how Robson described him, thereby suggesting the winner of some peculiarly arcane competition. One wondered, during the 43rd shot of a mountain looking unbashed and unshamed, who is Britain's second most loved fell-walker. Wainwright contented himself with the occasional mutter about declining standards and the fact that it is only logical to walk from west to east, since then the weather is behind you.

For the purposes of this film, the weather was all around them, and raining as usual. "Are we any closer?" Robson would occasionally ask pathetically, since their destination had been only vaguely specified as some three weeks' fell-walking away. "No," said Wainwright, "we are further away," thereby suggesting that maybe the compass had already gone a bit astray.

After seven miles or so they met a Youth Hostel warden. He said mountains were a great place to stand around drinking coffee, unlike Newcastle, where (he implied) you might get knocked down by a bus. Then there were some more mournful shots of lakes and fells and we were all told to come back next week at the same time. By then, they might have managed to find a taxi.

TOMORROW

Jim McCue on the art of Laurence Whistler

Mark-Anthony Turnage, new associate composer to the CBSO, talks to Stephen Pettitt

First for second city

Anyone who saw Mark-Anthony Turnage's *Greek*, his Steven Berkoff-based, street-wise opera performed at the Edinburgh Festival last year, will know that this 29-year-old, Essex-born composer seems to have a penchant for outrage and violence. It stems, perhaps, from a childhood spent in what he regards as the featureless, grey landscape of suburbia.

This month, Turnage takes up a three-year appointment as associate composer of Simon Rattle's City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, a job financed by the Radcliffe Trust. He expects to compose at least three significant new works during his tenure.

"I do not set out to be controversial," Turnage says, suddenly looking like a child caught eating sweets in class. What some see as controversy in his music, he apparently regards as part of his duty, an attempt to remove elitism from art.

For him, spiritual insight entails awareness, and preferably direct experience, of social reality. His political views, sometimes expressed abrasively, are liberationist and left-wing. He abhors the oppression of minorities and will champion their cause, even though he may not be one of their number. "Things in this country are terrible for minorities like blacks and gays and the unemployed. Section 28, for instance. Everywhere, money is more important than people."

The fact that his associateship is at Birmingham augurs well. Some indication of the possible dynamism of the relationship was given by the CBSO's magnificent performance last autumn of Turnage's ironic yet eminently symphonic orchestral work *Three Screaming Popes* (the title is from Francis Bacon's painting trilogy, in the Tate Gallery).

Turnage is insistent that he will not be changed into a music-producing machine for the period of his tenure. "I am not just going to throw things together: that would be terrible. I have deliberately



No categories, please: Mark-Anthony Turnage is a composer who does not seek outrage for its own sake

been keeping quiet and working slowly on pieces.

"It's useless just to churn out pieces, because they would be sub-standard. I have also got to take care of the other commitments I have, first of all."

"Educationally, I would like to be involved more with the 18 to 40 group, because there seems to me to be a gap in the Birmingham audiences there. But it is important for me to do things like going drinking with the players, to get to know them socially. In that way they understand what I am trying to do better, and I understand them, too."

Turnage is a composer who clearly draws inspiration from specific performers. Instances of that abound in his work, from the student days of *To a Black Dancer* and his first major success, *Night Dances* (inspired by Miles Davis) onwards. Indeed, his admiration

of the talents of other performers and composers extends almost to boyish, wide-eyed hero-worship.

His chief compositional (and personal and social) guru is the German composer Hans Werner Henze, under whose influence *Greek* was spawned. It was largely to Henze, too, that Turnage owed the first staging of what will surely count as the most notable first opera written by a young composer in the 1980s.

Talking about being asked to compose some new introductory music for the BBC Young Musician of the Year Competition, Turnage says: "What I really dislike is being categorized." He was commissioned, apparently, because he could be relied upon to produce something with a turn of He is, reportedly, known as a "lyrical composer", despite the

unmistakable feeling of anger that characterizes all his best music.

So what, in terms of new pieces, has been agreed for Birmingham? "There will probably be three major works, one each year. First is a piece for the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group for cello and ensemble, taken from music I had written for another [now abandoned] operatic project about Charles Mingus. I will also be working on sections, perhaps some standing freely, for the big piece I am planning for 1992."

"Then, in 1991, there will be a work for the CBSO Chorus — something self-contained, but which could also end up as part of the big 1992 piece. It is being programmed with Mahler Two for the opening of the new concert hall, so it will be on the same sort of scale, and will have a text by a living writer: someone like Edward Bond."

An orchestral story

CONCERTS
Paul Griffiths

BBC SO/Berio
Barbican Hall

This was the right way to start the BBC's four-day Berio festival: a concert leading up to one of his most festive works, the *Sinfonia* of 1968-9, attended by a large and enthusiastic audience. But then, all the other concerts look pretty spectacular too.

Monday evening brought the new *Casticum Novissini Testamenti II*, which, from extracts broadcast at the weekend, sounds utterly entrancing: tonight's programme presents Berio underground in his Mahler song orchestrations and surfacing in two recent scores of his own: then tomorrow his first big theatre piece, *Passaggio*, will be balanced by *Coro*, a monument of songs and sweeping tableaux. The exuberant, creative vitality of the man is being well-represented and imitated in the programming.

As for the performances so far, there may be some doubt whether Berio is his own best servant as conductor, but his account of *Sinfonia* was fascinating, not least in the light of the brief comments he had made to the audience beforehand. Deprecating the fashion for collage, which he suggested he had initiated with the Mahlerian rivierrun at the centre of this work (though surely lives was there half a century before), he proceeded to underplay that aspect of the piece.

I have never heard a performance in which so few of the quotations were clearly audible, and those few, perhaps with the exception of the waltz episodes appearing by courtesy of Richard

Strauss and Ravel, were weakly characterized. The running commentary provided by the eight amplified vocalists was also depressed, at least until near the end of the movement.

The effect was to concentrate attention on what one might naively call the "original" substance of the music — namely, because the hauling in of verbal and musical references, explanations and understatements, is surely the work's most original feature. However, Berio and the BBC Symphony players made a good case for hearing all the allusion and glamour of the music as surface chatter on a line that begins as Berio, continues as Mahler subverted by Berio, and then ends as Berio subverted by Berio.

That line was made particularly prominent by the playing of the five movements as a continuous half-hour whole, and by the pointing of the strands from the first and second movements that are drawn into the fabric of the last, so that the work ends by racing backwards towards its beginning. The notion of the work as a single utterance was also strengthened by the effect at the start of an orchestra stuttering into speech, and then, in the later stages of the opening movement, sounding great phonemes of clattering and richly-coloured sound. Here was *Sinfonia* as a story for orchestra.

Earlier, there were other stories: the uncharacteristically broad joke of the four discrepant versions of Boccherini's night portrait of *Madrid superimposed* on one another, the nostalgia for Russian nostalgia of *Ritorno degli svedesi*, with Rohan de Sarum tracking a lean path as the cello soloist, and the pencil-drawn mirror play of *Coro* around Carlo Chirappa's crispy virtuoso performance of Berio's own *violin Sinfonia*.

Noël Goodwin

Domus
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Even without the trappings of theatre, Haydn was a master of vocal drama. That was made vividly apparent by Ann Murray, who turned from Mozart's *Idamante* at Covent Garden recently to

sing Haydn's *Ariadne*. In a Sunday afternoon programme shared with players from Domus for the South Bank's continuing Haydn series (the series made possible by British and Commonwealth Holdings), the mezzo gave thrilling voice to the music's expressive intensity.

Although the vogue for solo cantatas was dying out at the end of the 18th century, *Ariadne* at *Naxos* took the London musical public by storm during Haydn's first visit here in 1791, when he accompanied a castrato soloist. The need now for it to be sung by a woman's voice also supports the partnership with a modern grand piano, played by Graham Johnson with a wealth of descriptive colour.

Following his lead in the introduction, the singer suggested a sleeper stirring into full consciousness by the varying weights and shading of voice, as *Ariadne* looks for Theseus to return in the first recitative and aria, then in the second lets the dawning anxiety of her plight spill over into ultimate misery. Her musical sensibility and feeling went deeply into an eloquently developing lament, and rated more than the audience's merely polite applause.

Susan Tomes, the Domus pianist, began with a brightly rhythmic account of the C major Sonata from Haydn's last group, using the piano's resources to subtly expressive effect. Sonority and dynamics were nicely gauged throughout, not least in the improvisatory middle movement, and she brought comparable qualities in relation to the violin and cello in two more of the Piano Trios that these concerts are helping to highlight.

In both the breezy C major Trio (H27), and its near neighbour in E flat (H29), with its shapeliness of contrapuntal line in the Andantino movement and the rustic festivity of the finale, the piano was properly the central focus. In these works her colleagues function rather like armorial supporters, but their own individuality was enjoyably evident as Haydn's new and original ideas sprang surprises at every turn.

Foreshadowing their freedom

British director

Declan Donnellan
tells Vera Lustig how
his Cheek by Jowl
company polarized
opinions on a visit to
Romania last April:
the Politburo walked
out, but the people
relished them



Coldly manic tyrant: Timothy Walker as Prospero in *The Tempest*

"Glib and perfumery" is how theatre director Declan Donnellan describes the British television coverage of events in Romania over Christmas. For him, that momentous footage may have been inadequate, but it was of special interest. In April of last year, he visited Bucharest with his company Cheek by Jowl, in productions of *The Tempest* and Sophocles's *Philoctetes*. Visits by foreign companies were a great rarity in pre-revolutionary Romania. "The British ambassador had to meet the highest officials of the Party," says Donnellan. "They only gave their consent because they expected safe Shakespeare and safe Sophocles."

Cheek by Jowl's work is far from safe even in Britain, where it sweeps up awards while provoking controversy andirate letters from teachers. In Bucharest's National Theatre, packed with over 2,000 people, the audience were even more sharply polarized. "The atmosphere was electric," recalls

Timothy Walker, who played Prospero. "It was exhilarating and dangerous. Members of the Politburo sat in the front four rows, and the audience seemed to be glancing towards them to see how they were reacting. The Politburo walked out of the performance — any one of them staying behind would presumably have lost his job. As for the rest of the audience, there must have been police informers among them, but whenever we spoke of tyranny there would be a palpable frisson, and whenever anyone uttered the word 'freedom', which happens a lot in *The Tempest*, they applauded and cheered. When we rushed into the audience at the end of the masque scene shouting 'freedom', it seemed as though the whole thing was about to go out of control."

Timothy Walker played Prospero as a coldly manic, tyrannical theatre director. Mirroring his "cell" on the stage was a vast, curtained box, set in the back wall of the auditorium. "We're not talking subtle here," says Walker — this was the Ceausescu box, unoccupied during Cheek by Jowl's visit.

The personality cult of Romania's leaders was at once terrifying and comical. "Romanian TV showed endless slow-motion film of children running towards Nicolae and Elena with bunches of flowers," recalls Donnellan. It was a cult which Romanian audiences were keen to puncture. In Cheek by Jowl's *Tempest* the King of Naples became a queen, tricked out in the stiff, dowdy regalia of the wealthy. "We'd just meant her to be a rich, powerful woman, any rich, powerful woman, but in Britain audiences assumed that it was an impersonation of Margaret Thatcher. People heaped praise on the actress for getting the walk just right, and they noted that our designer, Nick Ormerod, had got exactly the cut of Mrs T's clothes," says Donnellan.

"Then when we played in Bucharest, they were amazed. They said: 'How on earth did you research it? Did you watch news-reels? How did you get the walk, the cut of the skirt, the cut of the jacket, just right? She's the image of Elena Ceausescu.'"

Contact with Romanians was for the most part furtive and fleeting, as they were forbidden to talk to foreigners. Their brief meetings were often emotionally charged. After one performance, a woman jumped on to the stage and begged a member of the cast to marry her,

CABARET
John Connor
The Famous Compere's
Police Dog
Duke of York's

This is Amnesty's smaller-scale version of the "Secret Policeman's Ball". It was started three years ago, to give the best from the comedy cabaret circuit a showcase in the West End over three consecutive Sunday nights in January.

As with all such comedy variety shows raising money for a good and obviously serious cause, the sombre side has to be put. Compere for the evening, Arthur Smith, introduced Martin Fendler of Amnesty.

He hesitantly apologized for "having to do this in the middle of a comedy show", and then proceeded to read out how a professor in one South American capital had gone out shopping at midday, and was not seen again... "until nine o'clock that night". Cue relieved laughter. In his own witty routine, Smith returned the compliment with the observation: "Torture and imprisonment are not good for light comedy — unless the subject is Jeremy Bide."

In long charity shows — this one ran to only three-and-a-half hours — such moments are to be treasured. There is a certain slapdash quality to these occasions:

they cannot be rehearsed and polished in advance, like a one-off, and their success is dependent purely on the energies of those taking part on the night.

The first half was rather lacklustre, except for the performance of manic mime, Les Bubb. His send-up of the mime stereotype, with white gloves, immovable balloon and glass cage, works far better in a theatre than a club.

By the beginning of the second half, energy seemed suddenly to have arrived, even though the material was deteriorating. In a somewhat over-written panto spoof (by satirist Nick Revell) the cast stumbled around corpsing continuously.

It was also very hard to keep a straight face when Chris Lynam, a superb clown, appeared in a slinky dress as Margaret Thatcher. As some of the audience were not slow in pointing out, he has good legs.

It may have taken three years, but the cabaret circuit crowd had finally turned the Duke of York's into a club gig. The audience forgot they were in a "proper theatre", and joined in.

The old style of revue needed a theatrical framework, between audience and performer. Today's comedy cabaret, which is simply traditional variety re-invented by a generation which missed the original, needs that wall to be demolished.

It is something which, in 10 years of comedy-watching, I had never seen happen in a West End theatre. Top circuit stand-ups Kevin Day, Jo Brand and Chris Lynam (in his own set), danced on that wall. Then the superb rhythm 'n' blues band, Ronnie & The Rex, thundered it down. The audience danced in the aisles and the boxes waved their approval. Not a bad way to spend a Sunday night in January — and there are still two more to go.

PAST PRESENT FUTURE

Opens 25 January 1990

A completely new arrangement of the Tate Gallery's collection opens on 25 January. It shows British art from 1550 to the present day and the connections between British and foreign art in the twentieth century.

From 8-24 January only the Turner Collection in the Clore Gallery will be open, whilst work in the main galleries is completed.

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FASHION by Liz Smith

Looking into the Next decade

The chain that led the Eighties' high street revolution has equally big plans for the Nineties



Above: Embroidered denim jacket with leather collar, £44.99; sunflower printed cotton shorts, £21.99; knotted-front top, £15.99; all Next. Top: Images from Next's new advertising campaign

For almost a decade, fashion retailers in this country have felt the subliminal current generated by the Next chain. With its memorable name and robust image it pioneered the high street revolution of the early Eighties that transformed shops into bland, but tasteful, emporia purveying the essentials that reassured shoppers they were free-thinking achievers taking life in their stride.

Having led the way into the consumer boom, it was inevitable that Next would be one of the first to show symptoms of distress when the boom ended. In December 1988 George Davies, Next's chairman and chief executive, was ousted from the company he had founded, and his place taken by David Jones. Jones makes no claim to be an intuitive retailer, but has lost little time in asserting his more orthodox management skills to re-establish Next's position in the high street.

On January 24 Next's fashion ranges, streamlined to just two strong, main collections for men and women, Next and Next Originals, plus children's wear, lingerie and accessories, will be unveiled in London. A punchy advertising campaign will be launched simultaneously to explain the differences between the Next labels, and reassure customers that 1990 is indeed the start of the Next decade.

Jones admits 1989 was difficult. There was the legacy of a couple of flawed collections. "Research revealed we had a superb name and wide recognition, but the customer was confused," he says.

The 1990 range is the first from the new management

'We are selling style, rather than specific clothes'

team, its design dictated by two product directors - Alison Knox, in charge of women's wear, cosmetics and lingerie, and Amanda Froshaug, who looks after men's wear, children's wear and accessories. Both have a clear vision of their customers. "Next customers are 20-plus with high expectations of their lives and consequently of what they buy," Knox says. "Next Originals provide co-ordinated classics. The Next collection is upbeat and contemporary."

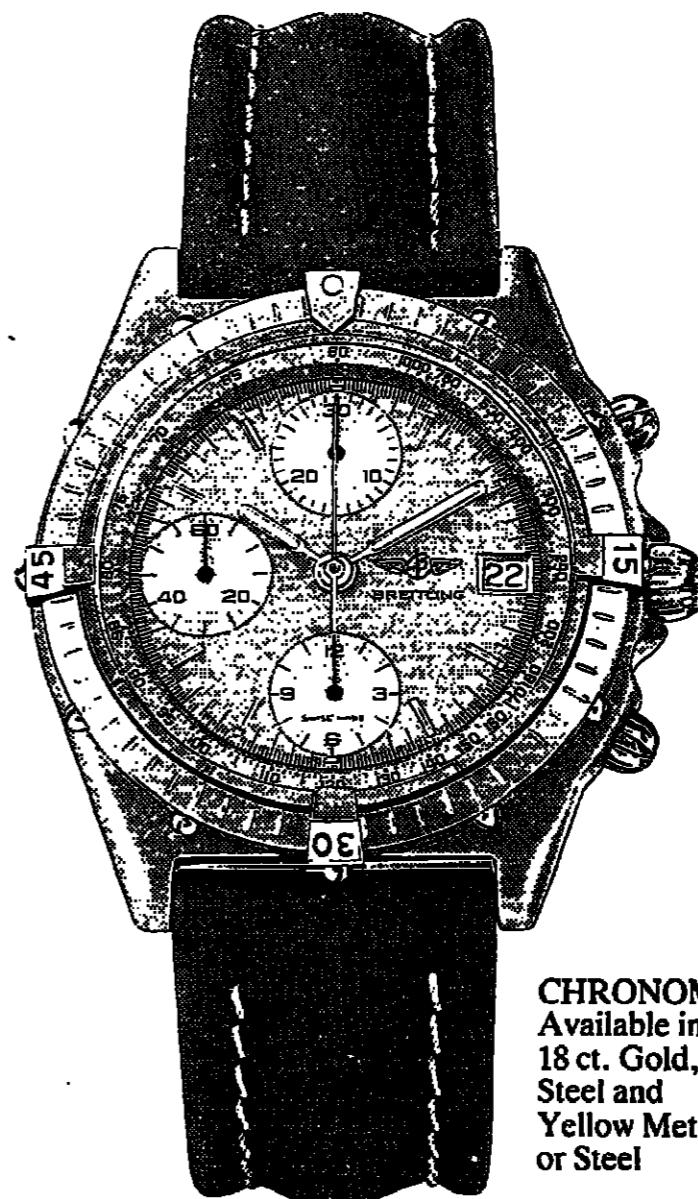
Froshaug accepts that "Next Man" entered the contemporary vocabulary to describe, unflatteringly, the self-conscious style of the yuppie, but says: "We have an image that has grown up."

Employing the yardstick of sales results per square foot to measure success, Jones has cut back the number of Next shops to 413. Turnover today in the Next retail group is more than £300 million. Jewellery and other accessories sell briskly on counters within Next stores, but not in "stand-alone" shops, so most of these are now closed.

The advertisements that will put across Next's new image portray happy-looking men and women playing on the beach with their children, or cycling about in Next denim, and who then dress up in smart Next tailoring to travel to work by private helicopter. "We are going for the emotions," Glyn Hayes, Next's advertising consultant, explains. "There is a feeling for chivalry and romance within a family group. We are selling style, rather than specific clothes, and make the distinction between the two lines, the basic Next Originals and the more spirited Next collection."



Above: She wears flowered cotton sateen, short single-breasted jacket, £56.99; Next Originals. He wears pure wool worsted single-breasted jacket, £85; green polo shirt, £13.99; both Next Originals for Men. All clothes from Next and Next Originals shops nationwide, from February 3. For details of nearest stockist, phone 0533 490321. Hair and Make up by Wendy Sadd for Schumi, 16 Pont Street, SW1. Photographs by TERENCE DONOVAN



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A gallery in creation

Joan Burstein of Browns, who has introduced Londoners to many international design names in her cluster of upmarket shops in South Molton Street, is turning the ground floor of her Knightsbridge branch into a

showcase for the Italian design star Romeo Gigli. The Gigli shop, to be filled with the romantic Byzantine silk and crushed-velvet tops with fly-away, shawl collars and brocade leggings for which the designer has an enthusiastic following, opens at 6c Sloane Street early next month.

"Gigli has a strong, directional style," Burstein says. "Everybody can pick pieces that suit their particular style."

Both Caroline [her daughter] and I wear his clothes in our different ways."

Gigli, who assured his place at the top of international fashion when he defected from Milan to show triumphantly in Paris last March, will arrive in London with his architect to oversee the conversion of the shop into a suitably austere gallery for his work-of-art clothes, similar in style to his Milan and Paris boutiques.

Gina Fratini is installed with her team in Hartnell's workrooms busily creating the collection of 35 costume ensembles, including a lavish wedding dress, to be shown on February 14. Fratini, who is already a favourite with the Royal Family, says: "When Norman Hartnell was alive he always liked what I did, so he won't be unhappy."

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INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
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THEATRE
LONDON

★ **BOOTS FOR THE FOOTLESS:** Brian Batten's sprightly Irish comedy set in the wild world of rent dogs and rag raggers at the Festival of Britain; plenty of laughter.
Tricycle Theatre, 269 Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (01-328 1000). Tue, Wed, Fri, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, £4.50-25, mats £4.50.

★ **THE DOUBLE BASS:** Ron Berglas in welcome revival of Patrick Suskind's very funny love-hate affair with his large tub organ.
Waterman's Arts Centre, 40 High St, Brentford (01-838 1176). Tue: Highways and Islington, Tues 7.45-10pm, mats Sat 3.30-5.45pm and Sun 3.45-5.15pm, Wed and Thurs 7.45pm, Fri and Sat 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **DIVERSIONS AND DELIGHTS:** Oscar Wilde looks back on his life in Donald Sinden's one-man show. Limited season.
Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (01-838 4011). Tue: Embankment, Opens tonight 7pm, then Mon-Sat 8pm, £5-15.

★ **HEDDA GABLER:** Elizabeth Quin, Richard O'Callaghan in new adaptation of Ibsen's screw-turning marital drama.
King's Head Theatre, 115 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1816). Tue: Highways and Islington, Tues 7.45-10pm, mats Sat 3.30-5.45pm and Sun 3.45-5.15pm, Wed and Thurs 7.45pm, Fri and Sat 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **LETITIA AND LOVAGE:** Carol Shekely and Helen Ryan in Peter Schaffer's long-running comedy in which two unlikely partners wage eccentric war against the modern world.
Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (01-437 2657). Tue: Posh and Circos, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, £4.50-25, Wed 8pm, Sat 8pm, £5-25.

★ **NOEL AND GERTIE:** Patricia Hodgson and Simon Coades' spin, sing and dance in Shenandoa's a rip down Memory Lane.
Comedy Theatre, Panton St, London SW1 (01-830 2578). Tue: Posh and Circos, Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats Wed 3pm, Sat 8pm, £5-25.

★ **STREETWALKER:** Bebel Theatre's opera based on Hogarth's engravings of the country girl plying her way through the fleshpots of London.
Bush Theatre, Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (01-743 3388). Tue: Shepherd's Bush, Previews tonight, tomorrow and Thurs 8pm, Opens Fri 7pm, then Tues-Sat 8pm, £5.



Penelope Keith (above) stars as Denise, the mother with a past, in *Dear Charles*, opening at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in Guildford tonight to celebrate the theatre's Silver Jubilee (see listings). A light comedy by Alan Melville, the play ran for 500 performances in 1952, with Yvonne Arnaud herself in the title role. She died in 1958, having lived near Guildford for many years and given great support to its old Repertory Theatre, replaced in 1965 by the one which bears her name.

★ **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-405 0072) ... ★ **Les Liaisons Dangereuses:** Ambassador Theatre (01-836 6111) ... ★ **Me and My Girl:** Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913) ... ★ **Les Miserables:** Palace Theatre (01-434 0503) ... ★ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443) ... ★ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244) ... ★ **Run For Your Wife:** Whitehall Theatre (01-867 1119) ... ★ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665).

OUT OF TOWN

★ **FARINHA:** ★ **Matilda:** New musical based on the engagingly bright five-year-old heroine of Roald Dahl's recent tale.
Redgrave Theatre, Brightwell (0252 727000). Tonight 7pm, Tues, Fri 2.30pm and 7pm, Wed, Thurs 10.30am and 2.30pm, Sat 4pm and 9pm, Chikara £4.50, adults £7.75, (D).

★ **DERBY:** ★ **Blood Knot:** Athol Fugard's celebrated drama of two South African sons of a coloured mother, one white, the other black.
Studio Theatre, Playhouse, Eagle Centre (0232 363275). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, £4.

★ **GUILDFORD:** ★ **Dear Charles:** See picture.
Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Millbrook (0450 6191). 7.30pm, £4.50-25.

FILMS

★ **Also on national release**
★ **Advance booking possible**
★ **DRUGSTORE COWBOY (15):** Provocative cowboy play about an unrepentant killer (Marty DiLorenzo) who finally faces up to his lifestyle. Directed by Gus van Sant with a strong feel for the underside of American society (100 min).
Cannon Oxford St (01-636 0310). Progs 1.15, 3.40, 6.05, 8.35.
Cannon Green (01-727 4043). Progs 2.30, 4.40, 6.50, 9.00.

★ **MYSTIC TRAIN (15):** Mostly delicious episode film from the unique, sidack Jim Jarmusch, focused on the overnight visitors at a Memphis hotel. With Youko Kasei, Screamin' Jay Hawkins (113 min).
Lumiere (01-836 0881). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.25, 8.50.
Screens on the Green (01-228 3520). Progs 4.00, 6.40, 8.50.

★ **MYSTIC PIZZA (15):** Dearly crafted saga about three girlfriends testing romance on the brink of adulthood. With Julie Roberts, Annette Bening, Lili Taylor; a promised first feature from director Donald P. Critch (104 min).
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 1.45, 4.05, 6.25, 8.50.
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.45, 4.10, 7.10, 9.30.
Whiteleys (01-752 3303). Progs 6.55, 9.10.

★ **PARENTHOOD (12):** Episodic heart-warmer from Ron Howard about the joys and sorrows of raising children with a large, excellent cast (Steve Martin, Mary Steenburgen, Dianne Wiest, Jason Robards) (114 min).
Cannon Baker Street (01-936 5772). Progs 2.20, 5.30, 8.10.
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2638). Progs 2.10, 6.10, 9.05.
Cannon Oxford St (01-636 0310). Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.15.
Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 6279). Progs 2.15, 5.05, 7.55.
Notting Hill (01-732 6705). Progs 3.00, 5.35, 8.10.
Piazza (01-437 1234). Progs 12.15, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30.
Whiteleys (01-792 3303). Progs 12.30, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45.

★ **ROSALIE GOES SHOPPING (15):** Broad satire from director Percy Adlon and the ample Marianne Sägebrecht (94 min).
Cannon Shaftesbury Ave (01-836 6279). Progs 1.20, 3.40, 6.00, 8.20.
Chelsea Cinema (01-351 3743). Progs 2.25, 5.40, 8.55.
Screens on the Hill (01-433 3443). Progs 2.55, 4.55, 7.05, 9.00.

★ **TURNER AND HOOGH (PG):** Predictable cop-drama with gritty action and charm by Tom Hanks as the police investigator (99 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.45, 4.10, 7.10, 9.30.
Odeon Kensington (01-802 5193). Progs 12.40, 3.20, 6.00, 8.40.
Whiteleys (01-792 3303). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.15, 8.55.

A rebel with a cause

The ballet *Laurentia* was created at the Kirov Theatre, Leningrad, in March 1939. It is based on the play *Fuente Ovejuna*, Lope de Vega's bitter drama about Spanish villagers who rise up against a local tyrant when driven beyond endurance. The choreography is by Vakhtang Chabukiani, the supreme heroic dancer of his day, and he played Fomoso, who leads the rebels. The title part went to the celebrated Kirov ballerina Natalia Dudinskaya. It was she who, wanting to resume this role, picked the 20-year-old Rudolf Nureyev straight out of ballet school to partner her in the 1953 revival which immediately made him a star. The full work has never been seen in Britain, but in 1964 Nureyev staged one of its virtuoso highlights, a pas de six, with a Royal Ballet cast for a *Golden Hour* television programme broadcast from Covent Garden. It was repeated at a gala the following year, but since then has been seen only in a short lived revival for the Royal Ballet's touring company in 1972. Now it reappears at Covent Garden, with the rehearsals directed by the Royal Ballet's new Russian teacher and répétiteur, Alexander Agadzhanyan. Tonight's premiere is danced by Darcey Bussell, Philip Broomhead, Maria Almeida, Viviana Denante, Bruce Sanson and Erroll Pickford. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066). 7.30pm, £1-44.

John Percival



Premiere: Darcey Bussell and Philip Broomhead at Covent Garden

CONCERTS
LUNCHTIME

★ **TWO QUARTETS:** The Endellion Quartet plays Haydn's Quartet Op 64 No 4 and Schubert's Quartet No 3.
Blahopoz Hall, 230 Bishopsgate, London EC2 (01-247 8844). 1.05-1.50pm, £2.50.

★ **BOYES MUSIC:** Copland's early The Cat and the Mouse is performed by Katharine Boyes, as are other piano pieces by Mozart, Mompou and Bartók.
St Martin-in-the-Fields, Ludgate Hill, London EC4 (01-248 8054). 1.15-1.45pm, free.

EVENING

★ **CARMINA CONCERT:** The Carmina Quartet performs Schubert's Quartet Op 78 and Beethoven's Quartet Op 130.
Phonographic Hall, Hope St, Liverpool (051 709 3789). 7.30pm, £5.

★ **CELESTIAL CHOICE:** Alexander Baile interprets solo songs by Schubert, Schumann and Brahms.
St Martin-in-the-Fields, Ludgate Hill, London EC4 (01-248 8054). 7.30pm, £4.50-25.

★ **EXPANSIVE EXPERIENCE:** The Scottish National Orchestra is conducted by Bryden Thomson in Nielsen's Sinfonia Espansiva.
Odeon Kensington (01-802 5193). Progs 12.40, 3.20, 6.00, 8.40.
Whiteleys (01-792 3303). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.15, 8.55.

★ **ERASURE:** Second leg of the duo's longest ever UK tour, at the end of which they will have performed before more than 250,000 people.
Whitby Bay Ice Rink, Hales Road (081 252 6200). 7.30pm, £5, two nights.

★ **SQUEEZE:** With their jaunty tunes and quirky, sentimental lyrics about the mundanities of everyday life, the South Londoners have become a charmingly quaint if disappointed English pop institution.
Hammermith Odeon, Queen Caroline St, London W6 (01-748 4081). 7.30pm, £10.

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★ **ANN HAMPTON CALLAWAY:** The New York cabaret singer is in residence for the next three weeks.
Piazza On The Park, 11 Knightsbridge, London SW1 (01-236 5550). 9.15pm & 11.15pm, ring for prices. To Feb 3.

★ **JOHN DANKWORTH:** Reunion time as the composer-saxophonist assembles players from the Dankworth Seven and the somewhat stolid big band.
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★ **DEGAS: IMAGES OF WOMEN:** Laundresses, prostitutes and society people are among those observed by the Impressionist painter.
The Burrell Collection, 2080 Pollokshaws Road, Glasgow G41 6AG (01-461 7151). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, until Feb 25.

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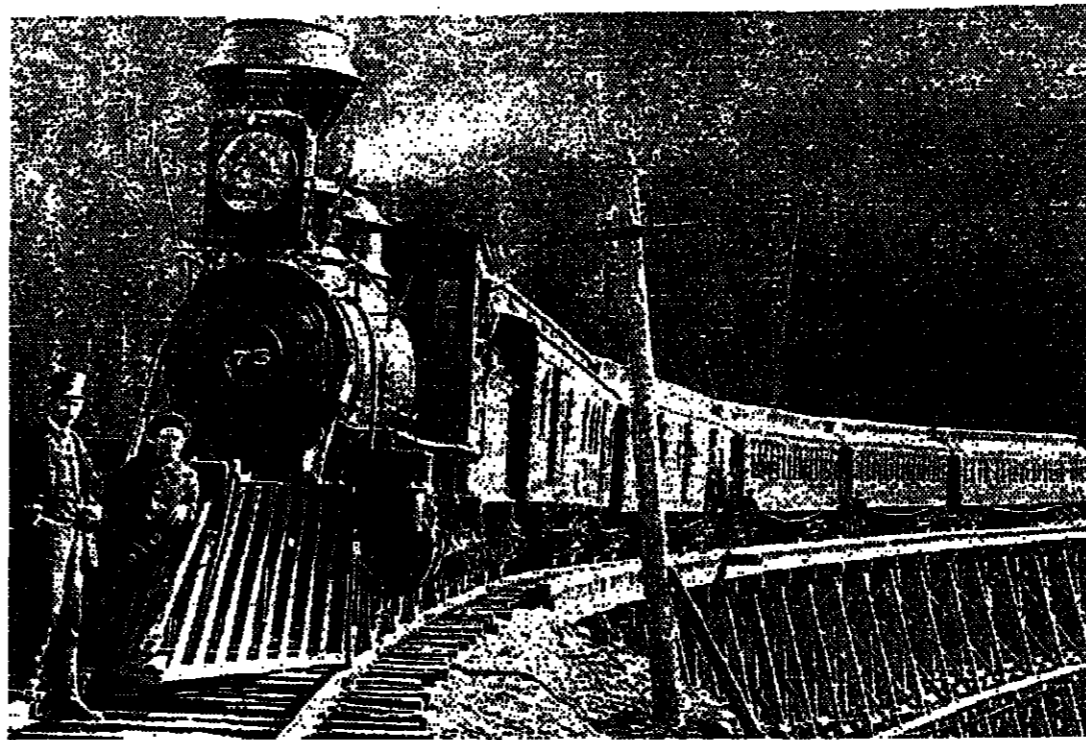
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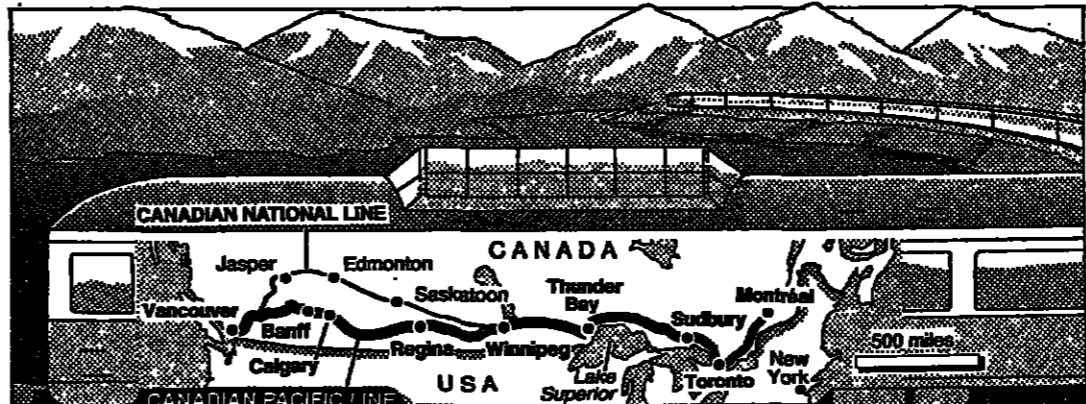
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★

Political sketch



A westbound train crossing a trestle bridge over the Illecillewut River in the Rockies in the line's heyday.



There is also concern that the cuts will isolate many small communities.

Secret police HQ stormed

an operation on a kidney tumour. He does not know of the new charges. His successor, Herr Egon Kreaz, and his former deputy in Security Affairs, Herr Wolfgang Herger, have been summoned to give an account of the relationship between the Ministry of State Security and the communist party.

This weekend a manned balloon landed near me, and I watched it pass over, very close. I learnt much.

Victims' charter set up

WEATHER Windy in most places.

c. Double-chinned
TO PREPON
a. Fitting
b. To overbear
c. To perjuryander
TOPINCH
a. An Elizabethan shoe
b. To pinch
c. A Japanese measure of area
LOW TOBY
a. Mugging
b. An alehouse
c. A score of cards

Answers on page 18

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the

c. Double chained
TO PREPON
a. Fitting
b. To overbear
c. To gurrymander
TOPINCH
a. An Elizabethan shoe
b. To pinch
c. A Japanese measure of area
LOW TOBY
a. Mugging
b. An alehouse
c. A score at cards

Answers on page 18

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information 24-

WEATHER Windy in most places. Cloud and rain over northern England and Northern Ireland will spread across Scotland. Clearer, showery but cooler weather in Northern Ireland will reach Scotland and northern England by the end of the day. Southern England and Wales will be blustery and cloudy with drizzle and patchy fog. Outlook: Rain clearing from south-east; bright and cold, showers in north-west.

AROUND BRITAIN

[illegible]

MES WEATHERCALL

London	14 07	1	Warrington	3 07	c
Leamington	3 37	fg	Warrington*	7 45	c
Luton	20 68	s	Wetherby	21 79	s
Madrid	5 48	s	Zurich	2 38	s

* denotes Sunday's figures are latest available

ps. Heretics & Worcs.....	710
ral Midlands.....	711
Midlands.....	712

Sunday: Highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Cromer, Norfolk, 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Tise, inner Hebrides, 0.43 in; highest sunshine: Weymouth, Dorset, 5.4 h.	712
Lincoln & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
N E England	717

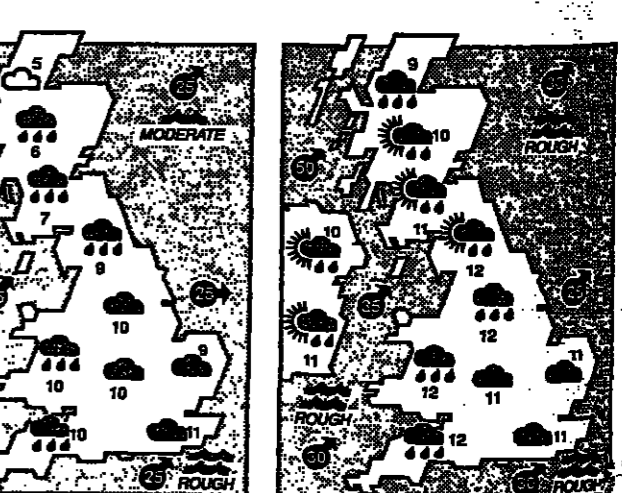
Scotland	720
Central Scotland	721

Edin S File/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Gaithness Orkney & Shetland	726

land 727
thercall is charged at 5p for 8

seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

AM PM



WIND-UP TIME YESTERDAY

7:58 am
 8:08 am
 8:32 am
 8:15 am
 8:14 am

Sun rises:
 7:59 am

Sun sets:
 4:22 pm

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, about 1
 fair; r, rain; s, sun.

Belfast	C	F	G	C	F
Birmingham	11	52	r	10	50
Blackpool	11	52	d	9	48
	10	50	s	11	52
Cardiff	11	52	d	10	50
Exeter	11	52	d	10	50
Gloucester	11	52	d	10	50
Leamington	11	52	d	10	50
London	11	52	d	10	50
Manchester	11	52	d	10	50
Newcastle	11	52	d	10	50
Nottingham	11	52	d	10	50
Sheffield	11	52	d	10	50
Southampton	11	52	d	10	50
Stoke	11	52	d	10	50
Swansea	11	52	d	10	50
Torquay	11	52	d	10	50
Wolverhampton	11	52	d	10	50

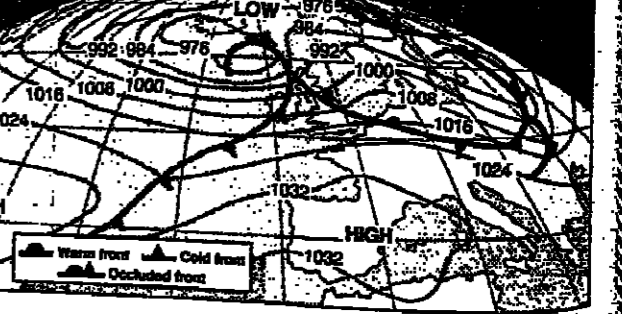
January 18	Glasgow	11	52	r	Nonidaw	12	54
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HIGH TIDES								
AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
4.55	8.08	5.23	8.08	Liverpool	2.13	8.06	2.27	8.05
4.23	8.08	4.30	4.01	Lowestoft	12.11	2.06	1.07	2.01
10.23	12.4	10.44	11.9	Margate	2.58	4.08	3.34	4.04

2.01	8.05	2.19	8.00	Seam	8.37	3.07	8.05	3.00
8.13	5.00	8.32	4.07	Pennance	7.49	5.03	8.09	4.00
4.00	4.06	3.49	5.02	Portland	9.43	2.01	10.18	1.00

2.46	3.08	3.12	3.07	Portsmouth	2.37	4.05	2.40	4.03
1.21	5.00	1.33	5.03	Shoreham	2.10	6.00	2.22	5.57
9.32	6.07	9.26	7.03	Southernport	2.05	4.03	2.11	4.01
8.10	8.06	9.28	8.01	Swansea	9.28	8.08	9.45	8.04
9.45	5.08	9.41	6.03	Tees	7.02	4.09	7.06	5.01
5.52	5.00	6.12	5.01	White-on-Black	2.37	4.01	3.07	3.50

Tide in metres: 1m=3.28084ft. Times are GMT



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Glasgow G41 1EJ, telephone 041 471.

● BUSINESS & FINANCE 21-26
● LAW 28-29
● RUGBY UNION REPORT 34-35
● SPORT 36-42

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND
US dollar
1.6640 (-0.0060)

W German mark
2.8146 (+0.0099)

Exchange index
88.5 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1898.9 (-12.2)

FT-SE 100
2366.2 (-13.9)

USM (Datastream)
158.90 (-0.63)

Market report, page 24

Severn at
£55.3m

Mr John Bellak, chairman of
Severn Trent Water, has
announced a £55.3m capital
spending programme.

He said advanced planning
underlying the programme
and steps to provide addi-
tional financial and engineer-
ing resources would enable the
group to meet the challenge.

Pre-tax profits for the six
months to September 30, were
£55.3 million before privati-
zation costs of £5.2 million,
in line with the prospectus
forecast. Pro forma earnings,
allowing for capital changes,
were £110.2 million or 31.2p
a share. The shares gained 1p
to 142p.

LSB ahead

London Scottish Bank, the
consumer credit financier and
debt collector, increased pre-
tax profits by 16 per cent to
£3.35 million, in the year to
end-October, with turnover
up from £22.1 million to £25.2
million. The final is 1.65p, up
from 1.4p, to make 2.4p, a rise
of 17 per cent.

STOCK MARKETS

New York:	
Dow Jones	2874.91 (-14.30)
Nikkei Average	Closed
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	2786.09 (-49.25)
Amsterdam:	
CBS Tendency	116.6 (-0.1)
Sydney: AO	1681.7 (-32.0)
Frankfurt: DAX	1841.51 (-14.05)
Braunschweig:	
General	6529.30 (-70.13)
Paris: CAC	5382.2 (-10.5)
Zurich: SMI Gen	622.1 (-0.5)
London:	
FT-A All Share	1898.9 (-12.2)
FT-100	2366.2 (-13.9)
FT-1000	1292.92 (-8.47)
FT-10000	349.41 (-1.3)
FT-100000	92.39 (-0.21)
FT-1000000	82.39 (-0.83)
Recent issues	Page 22
Closing prices	Page 25

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISERS:	
A Kershaw	535p (+10p)
S Miller	198p (+10p)
Henderson Admin	625p (+10p)
Barr Wallace 'A'	297p (+10p)
FALLS:	
WH Smith 'A'	334p (-12p)
DAKS Simpson 'A'	477p (-10p)
Church	382p (-10p)
Body Shop	582p (-12p)
Rachem	652p (-15p)
Eurotunnel Units	635p (-10p)
Glass	75p (-10p)
Tibury Group	645p (-10p)
Anglo Group	287p (-10p)
Callor Allen	425p (-10p)
Net Aust Bank	710p (-10p)
Brit Aerospace	551p (-10p)
Euro Disney	955p (-10p)
Gresham House	375p (-10p)
AG Bar	630p (-10p)
MAM	680p (-10p)
Closing prices	Page 22
Bargains	2708p
SEAQ Volume	350.7m

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	15%
3-month interbank	15.75-15.8%
3-month eligible bills	14.75-14.8%
US Prime Rate	10%
Federal Funds 8%	
3-month Treasury bills	7.49-7.47%
30-year bonds	9.5-9.5%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£/\$1.6640	£/\$1.6610
£/DM2.8146	£/DM1.6955
£/FF22.5076	£/FF11.5080
£/F57.721	£/F57.725
£/Yen241.78	£/Yen148.45
£/Index88.5	£/Index87.7
£/EU1.22487	£/EU1.22485
£/EU1.32194	£/EU1.32193

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$415.30 pm-\$415.50	
clm \$412.25-412.75 (\$247.50-248.00)	
New York:	
Comex \$412.70-413.20	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar)	\$19.50 bbl
Denmark latest trading price	

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.05	2.05
Canada \$	2.05	2.05
France F	6.50	6.50
Germany D	2.05	2.05
Italy L	2.05	2.05
Japan Y	2.05	2.05
Netherlands Gld	2.05	2.05
Portugal Esc	2.05	2.05
Spain Ptas	2.05	2.05
Switzerland Fr	2.05	2.05
Sweden Kr	2.05	2.05
UK £	2.05	2.05
USA \$	2.05	2.05
Yugoslavia Dnr	2.05	2.05

SeaCon agrees break-up bid

By Martin Waller

The protracted battle for Sea Containers, the owner of a large stake in the Orient Express railway and the Sealink ferry service, may finally be reaching a close, with agreed offers for both Sealink and the British container business.



Sherwood: 'very attractive offer'

The offers are from the two companies making up the consortium which has been struggling to take over Sea Containers since last March, Tiphook, the British container leasing group, and Stena, the Swedish shipping line. The deal arranged yesterday gives both the businesses of Sea Containers they were originally seeking but at a considerably higher cost.

Tiphook has agreed to pay \$537 million (£323 million) for the marine dry cargo and tank con-

American corporations. The Swedes will pay \$430 million cash for Sealink British Ferries, excluding the Isle of Wight ferry service, the Hoverspeed operation and some other smaller assets, and will also hand over the 838,000 Sea Containers shares, representing about 5 per cent of the company. The shares have a market value of about \$38 million.

The two have stressed that both deals must go through or neither will. The existing offer on the table, made through their Temple vehicle and valuing the entire group at \$1.12 billion, would therefore lapse. Sea Containers, led by Mr James Sherwood, its president, has until 9am London time on Thursday to agree formally.

Mr Sherwood has said he intends to recommend his board to accept

the offers. After the two disposals, the group would have its numerous hotel interests and its 42.5 per cent stake in the Orient Express, the ports of Heysham, Lancashire, Folkestone, Kent, and Newhaven, East Sussex, and land at Harwich, Essex, and its imposing headquarters besides the Thames in London. It is also retaining its specialized and refrigerated containers businesses and the new carrying catamarans set to operate between Portsmouth, Hampshire, and Cherbourg later this year.

Sea Containers' recapitalization plan, under which Mr Sherwood was to fund a \$70 cash pay-out to shareholders via a \$1.1 billion asset sales programme, returns to the meeting-point.

Yesterday's deal needs the blessing of Sea Containers shareholders

at a meeting in March, and the company plans to put together a modified restructuring plan incorporating the sales.

Speaking from New York last night, Mr Sherwood admitted that a disposal of Sealink had not been part of his original plans but had been decided on after the unsolicited, but "very attractive" offer.

Tiphook has seen explosive growth in recent years, raising fears in the City over its heavy borrowings, even for a company in the leasing business. But Mr Eric Goodwin, its deputy chairman, said gearing will be 240 per cent once the second tranche of last year's rights issue comes in.

"We're very happy. It gives us the assets we want and it takes away all the problems of the legal action," he said. The purchase

doubles the size of its dry container fleet. The first losers from the outbreak of peace in the war for Sea Containers look to be the US lawyers. The bad-tempered fight had increasingly been fought out in the US and Bermudan courts.

Mr Mark McVicar, transport analyst at County NatWest, the broker, commented: "Effectively what they are doing is skinning a cat the other way around." He said Tiphook would have to demonstrate the benefits of the purchase to regain the market's confidence after paying a full price.

"The economic background around the world has moved downwards a couple of notches since the bid was announced in May. Meanwhile they are paying more. The risk factor must have moved up a bit."

M&S ally gains breathing space

Campeau files for Chapter 11

From James Bone, New York

Campeau Corporation's debt-ridden US retail arms, Federated Department Stores and Allied Stores, yesterday filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection to try to save some of America's most famous department stores from creditors.

Marks and Spencer shares fell 5p to 197p as concern grew about the status of its \$30 million (£18 million) agreement with Campeau, made 18 months ago as part of M&S's \$750 million acquisition of Brooks Brothers and giving it the right to space in Campeau stores. So far, M&S has not taken up any of its rights under the deal.

M&S said it was still too early to say what would happen to the agreement. "We will have to wait and see," a spokesman said. He added that the financial implications for M&S were not great because it had written off the goodwill on the balance sheet at the time of the acquisition.

If Campeau survives as a corporate entity, the deal with M&S should remain intact, but if Campeau disappears, the deal will be worthless.

The bankruptcy move, which was widely expected, is the most dramatic indication yet of the turmoil in the US retail sector, in which both BAT Industries and Hooker Corporation are trying to sell major department store

chains. It was the biggest Chapter 11 filing in American retailing history. Allied and Federated operate 258 stores in the US, including Bloomingdale's, Abraham & Strauss, Rich's and Jordan Marsh.

The Chapter 11 filing, made in the US Southern District Court of Ohio, in Cincinnati, where the subsidiaries are based, reflected Campeau's failure to pay off \$8 billion in

debt, much of it assumed when the Toronto-based company acquired the two US retailers.

Campeau bought Allied in 1986 for about \$3.5 billion and Federated in 1988 for \$6.5 billion. Campeau said: "The decision to seek Chapter 11 relief was based on a conclusion that action was required at this

time in order to preserve the operations, strength and assets of the two department store subsidiaries while the corporate debt is restructured."

Under Chapter 11, Allied and Federated's 10 department store chains will remain in business while restructuring. One of them, Lazarus, ran full-page advertisements in Ohio newspapers yesterday proclaiming "Business as usual".

In a joint statement, Mr John Burden III, chairman and chief executive of Federated and Allied, and Mr James Zimmerman, chief operating officer of the companies, said they expected the bankruptcy filing to help the stores by allowing them to concentrate on sales rather than their financial problems. "Corporate management will have the necessary time to aggressively address the problems that exist at the corporate level," they said.

Analysts said that the bankruptcy filing would reassure suppliers, because they would have precedence over other creditors under Chapter 11.

Campeau also said yesterday that Federated and Allied had negotiated tentative agreements for financing to continue operating. A syndicate led by Citicorp has agreed in principle to provide Federated with \$400 million in financing.

Inquiry into KLP deals



Sealed with a drink: Bernard Roux of RSCG and Colin Lloyd celebrate the deal yesterday

The Stock Exchange is to investigate dealings before yesterday's announcement of a £321 million agreed bid for KLP Group, the Unilever Securities Market sales promotion group, by RSCG, an unquoted French advertising group, writes Melinda Wittstock.

The cash bid, at a 48.8 per cent premium to KLP's 160p Friday closing price, immediately sent KLP shares soaring 73p to 233p, while sparking charges by one market-maker of possible insider dealing in the shares before the bid.

Stock Beech Securities, one of three market-makers in KLP shares, said it lost 240,000 yesterday after being asked to sell KLP shares

between 165p and 175p to six different brokerage firms before the bid was announced.

"The phone just didn't stop ringing between 8.45am and 9.30am; we sold 40,000 shares to one firm, then 12,000 to someone else. Then the bid was announced," said Mr Christopher Moorson, the managing director, who has asked the Stock Exchange to investigate.

RSCG, which bought a 29.9 per cent stake in the market yesterday at 243p, through Kleiweert Benson, is offering 238p per share cash plus a partial loan note alternative.

It has already won irrevocable acceptances of 17.4 per cent of the ordinary shares and 31.9 per cent of the convertible

preference shares. Mr Colin Lloyd, the KLP chief executive, will join RSCG's main board in France to take charge of worldwide marketing services while continuing as head of KLP's British operations, makes £3.57 million from the sale of his 15 per cent of KLP.

M Bernard Roux, the chairman of RSCG, said KLP will "substantially strengthen" RSCG's position in Britain and the US.

The agreed bid comes as KLP reports a 77.5 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £4.55 million for the year to end-September. Earnings per share increased by 67 per cent to 22.2p, while a final dividend of 5p makes 7.5p for the year against last year's 6.5p.

M&G vote against Fisher

By Sam Parkhouse

Despite a watering down of original proposals, M&G, the investment group, voted against Albert Fisher's £180 million rights issue at the special shareholders' meeting. Shareholders approved the £180 million cash call but only after the food distributor last week dropped the terms of the deal which allowed Corporate Partners, a US investment house, to appoint two directors. This condition will be put to a future meeting.

Several institutions objected to the one-for-three rights issue when it emerged that Corporate Partners, had the right to take up 5 per cent of the enlarged share capital at the issue price of 110p while Fisher shares stood at 127p.

Corporate, underwriter to the issue, was also allowed to nominate two directors and lift its stake in Fisher to 20 per cent after the cash-raising was completed.

M&G, and other institutions, felt that shareholders would be denied the benefit of seeing the shares rise if Corporate built its stake by market purchases.

M&G has written to Mr Tony Millar, chairman of Fisher, and will decide whether to dispose of its holding in the next two weeks. Mr Millar said Fisher will be left with about £100 million in cash after the rights issue. The company is considering three relatively small acquisitions. Mr Lester Pollack, senior managing director of Corporate, is likely to be one of the nominations for the Fisher board.

Spending leap hits hopes of rates cut

By Colin Narbrough, Economics Correspondent

A surge in Christmas retail sales has rekindled fears that the Government's counter-inflation policy may not have reined back consumer spending enough and reinforced the view that interest rates will stay high for longer than previously expected.

A provisional 2.2 per cent rise last month from November in the seasonally-adjusted volume retail sales index to 123.9 was much higher than market forecasts. November saw a fall of 0.4 per cent.

However, many City economists were sceptical about the strong December figure, largely attributing the rise to retailers bringing forward new year sales. In line with the Confederation of British Industries' latest survey, they anticipated that consumers would be forced to draw in their horns, especially homeowners facing an annual adjustment of their mortgage rates this month.

Mr Bill Martin, chief economist at Phillips & Drew, the

CBI urges tax help to avert recession

By Our Economics Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry has called on Mr John Major, the Chancellor, to give priority to tax incentives to industry in order to boost investment and ensure that Britain avoids recession.

In its submissions for the Budget, the CBI has proposed that the proportion of fixed investments that could be written off against tax should be increased to 40 per cent from 25 per cent.

This would cut the effective cost of capital by about 4.5 per cent and may raise the level of business investment by £2.2 billion a year to the year 2000.

In line with its policy of seeking to reduce burdens on business, the CBI also called for cuts in the employers' National Insurance contributions. But it urged Mr Major to make no net reduction in the Budget in personal taxes, so that interest rates can be cut as soon as inflation is on a downward trend.

The CBI renewed its de-

Artificial intelligence assets to be written off

By Melinda Wittstock

Telecomputing, the USM-quoted computer software group that is investigating a possible overstatement of company profits, is likely to fall into losses of £1.4 million after writing off artificial intelligence assets as exceptional items when it reports its final results in February.

The group, which fell into a £194,000 loss for the year to end-September 1988 after a move into artificial intelligence before returning to the black with pre-tax profits of £145,000 for the six months to end-May 1989, says it is cutting costs significantly but is presently trading at breakeven. Telecomputing, which plans to turn to its shareholders to raise about £2 million in a rights issue next month, also said it is close to discovering whether or by how much the interim profits had been overstated.

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Air France faces EC inquiry into UTA deal

By Our City Staff

The European Commission is launching an investigation into Air France's planned purchase of a majority stake in Union des Transports Aeriens (UTA), France's largest private airline.

Air France hopes to buy the 54.6 per cent stake from Chargeurs for \$3.8 billion (£397.5 million) but yesterday Sir Leon Brittan, the EC Competition Commissioner, said: "The takeover of UTA by Air France, which brings with it control of (domestic carrier) Air Inter, raises fundamental questions under the commission's competition policy."

"In particular there will be

considerable concern about the protection of the consumer as air traveller in the single European market."

The EC is also examining the agreement under which British Airways and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines each bought a 20 per cent stake in Sabena World Airlines, the Belgian airline's operating subsidiary.

The proposed takeover of UTA would give Air France virtual control over French international services and most domestic routes.

Sir Leon, who is committed to liberalizing the community's highly-regulated air transport market, is at odds

with a colleague, Mr Karel van Miert, over whether the deal is an a priori breach of anti-monopoly rules.

Mr van Miert, in an interview published with *Les Echos*, the French business daily, argued that the acquisition would not undermine competition, as Air France, UTA and Air Inter cover different territory apart from a few exceptions such as the French overseas territories, the Paris-San Francisco route and Paris to Papeete, Tahiti.

A Commission source said Sir Leon is expecting information from Air France and the French authorities in the next

few days that will enable him to decide whether to object to the deal.

But any further action must be endorsed by the 17-member Commission, which can order the deal annulled if it sees a violation of competition law. If submitted to a vote, such decisions must be approved by nine or more members of the panel. The outcome is by no means clear-cut, the official said.

Among factors weighing in the takeover's favour, he said, were awareness that action against it could also torpedo the proposed joint venture between Sabena, British Airways and KLM.

Takeover focus turns from US

Takeover activity by British companies in the United States has slumped as they prepare for 1992 and the single European market.

According to Mr Philip Healey, editor of *Acquisitions Monthly*, the value of US takeovers by British companies slumped from \$31.72 billion (£19 billion) to \$16.82 billion (£10.1 billion) last year, and UK firms off-loaded some \$5.8 billion of US interests.

Last year, for the first time, British companies made more takeovers in Europe than in the US, their traditional hunting ground, in terms of numbers, although in value terms the US is still first choice.

UK companies last year made 359 acquisitions on the Continent, worth £2.63 billion, compared with 252 takeovers worth £2.79 billion in 1988.

Medirace rights backed

Shareholders in Medirace, the Third Market pharmaceutical company, yesterday approved an £87 million rights issue. Proceeds will fund purchase of Evans Healthcare, the generic drug company bought from Glaxo three years ago in a £27 million management buyout.

Medirace shares will return from suspension to move up to a full listing.

Shareholders also approved a change in name to Medeva.

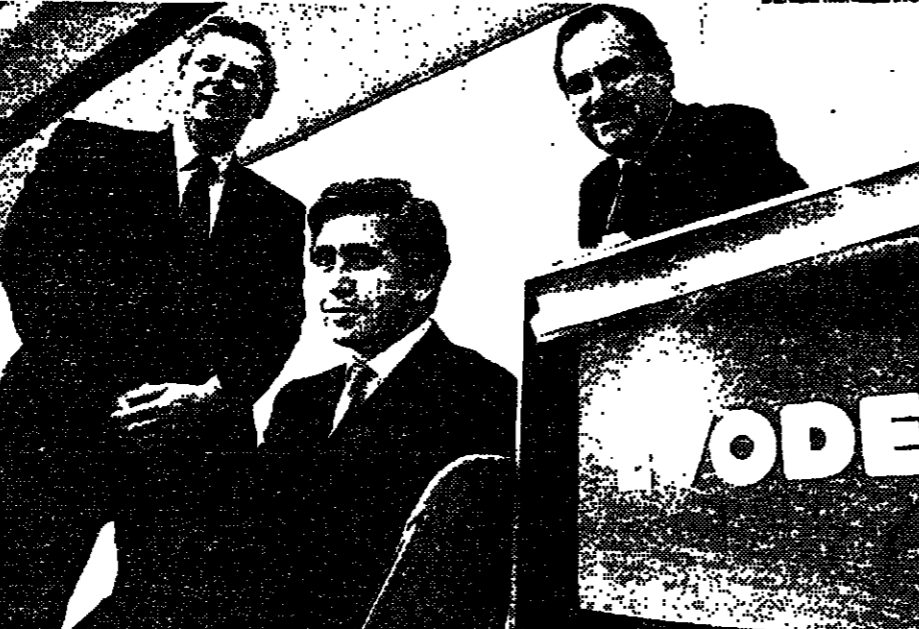
Petrocon stake

Mr Peter Hodgson, former chairman of Petrocon has increased his stake in the valve distributor and cartographic group, Richards Group, the Birmingham specialist engineering firm chaired by Mr Hodgson, yesterday revealed a 3.4 per cent stake in Petrocon. Mr Hodgson already has 10.3 per cent of Petrocon. Richards's managing director, Mr James Fergus, owns a further 20,000 shares. Mr Hodgson stood down as Petrocon chairman last year when Hillsdown Investment Trust led a restructuring of it.

Devenish deal

J A Devenish, the brewer and public house operator, has acquired the Steaks steakhouse chain in South Wales from Mecca Leisure Group for well in excess of £1 million.

Evode rises to £11.6m



Andrew Simon flanked by Tony Wain, finance director, left, and David Winterbottom, chief executive: Overseas side making up for poorer performance at home

By Jeremy Andrews

Evode will make annual savings of £5 million at Chamberlain Phipps, rather than the £3.5 million forecast when it made an £89 million agreed bid in May.

However, a slowdown in demand in Britain left profits for the year to September only 28 per cent ahead at £11.6 million on sales 61 per cent up at £197 million.

Profits were slightly lower than some analysts had expected and the shares lost 4p to 141p. Fully diluted earnings per share fell by 2p to 13.1p, but Mr Andrew Simon, the chairman, said that had Evode not acquired Chamberlain Phipps, earnings would

have risen by 4p per cent despite the slackening in UK industrial activity. The final dividend rises by 15p to 4.2p, making 6.04p.

Management consultants found Chamberlain's divisional management structure was unnecessary, and staffing has been cut. Of 41 senior managers with service contracts, only 21 remain and only one member of Chamberlain Phipps' board is staying on.

The consultants' £1.3 million fees will be charged directly to the balance sheet. Chamberlain Phipps companies added £3.23 million to pre-interest profits, although only £1.98 million fell in the new Chamberlain Phipps division. The balance was split

between the other divisions, including adhesives and sealants, where profits rose from £2.93 million to £3.48 million, and plastics, where profits jumped from £2.13 million to £5.03 million.

The contribution from industrial coatings fell from £5.32 million to £4.41 million because of the disposal of part of Supra's activities to Evans Halshaw in December 1988.

Mr Simon said: "Trading performance during the first quarter was mixed with some UK subsidiaries suffering from the slowdown in the economy. However, half of the group's projected sales are generated overseas where trading conditions have generally been better."

Plateau confirms quote date

By Colin Campbell, Mining Correspondent

Plateau Mining, a newly-formed exploration company with interests in Ecuador, Zimbabwe and Cyprus and covering gold, platinum and other metals, has confirmed that it plans to make its stock market debut on January 25.

Plateau is likely to have a market capitalization of about £17 million. It essentially consists of assets owned by the Robertson Group whose shareholders are being offered shares in Plateau on terms being finalized. In addition, there will be a share placing with London institutions after

which Plateau will come to the market debt-free. James Capel is the broker to the issue.

Mr Barry Snake-Adams, a former head of RTZ's mining department, will be Plateau's chairman and the other directors also have extensive mining experience.

The company's Zimbabwean joint-venture partners are RTZ Zimbabwe and Anglo American Zimbabwe and the plan is to bring a platinum/nickel deposit in the Chegutu complex, south of Harare, into production by 1994. Extensive work has been

carried out. The project could generate an annual operating profit of US\$55 million (£33 million) at full production.

The overall cost of the Zimbabwean platinum project, in which Plateau will hold a 24 per cent stake, is estimated at US\$171 million.

In Ecuador, Plateau holds a 40 per cent stake in the Campanilla gold project, south of Quito, where full production, yielding 1,700 ounces of gold a month of which Plateau's share would be 680 ounces, is expected by September.

New-look auditor aims for £500m fees

By Graham Seear, Financial Editor

Britain's biggest accounting group set up shop yesterday when Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte started trading under one name.

The firm, which wants to be known as Coopers Deloitte, employs 11,000 people and hopes to have combined annual income of £500 million this year.

It will be 30 per cent ahead of Pricewaterhouse, followed by Ernst & Young and Price Waterhouse, while Arthur Andersen and Touche Ross are only about a third of the size.

The British Deloitte partnership - which opted out of the worldwide merger of Deloitte Haskins & Sells and Touche Ross - will not formally merge with Coopers & Lybrand until April 29, the end of Deloitte's financial year.

Mr Brandon Gough of Coopers, who becomes chairman and joint senior partner of the new firm, said that most worldwide markets were seeing the emergence of between two and four top firms instead of the big eight. The Coopers & Lybrand international partnership aimed to be in the top league in most European countries by stressing the growth of the broad financial advice market.

Mr John Bullock of Deloitte, who becomes chairman of Coopers & Lybrand Europe as well as joint senior partner of the British firm, said C&L was aiming for a leadership role on the Continent, which was one of the most exciting areas for growth.

He said: "Our competitors had better watch out."

Deloitte firms in Holland, Belgium, Austria and the Channel Islands have already decided to join the worldwide Coopers & Lybrand group. Those in Italy, Germany and Spain have not yet decided to join the combined Deloitte Ross Tomahits.

Air Call offer

The offer for Air Call (Holdings), the information management-to-health paging company, by Healthcare Group, a management buyout team, has gone unconditional after acceptances were received for 3.47 million shares, representing 93.18 per cent of the total. The offer was worth £41.5 million. In April last year, Air Call (Holdings) sold its radio-paging, mobile phone and telemedicine subsidiary, to BellSouth, the American telephone services group.

COMMENT David Brewster Steel yourself and vote for Ferranti rights issue

As if shareholders in Ferranti International did not have enough to worry about, they are now faced with the dilemma of whether to throw good money after bad and subscribe for the £187 million rights issue. The rights issue was put in place as the full horror of the fraud at International Signal Corporation began to emerge. As a result of the loss of capital which Ferranti suffered, it fell into breach of virtually every banking agreement it had. The banks agreed not to pull the rug from under the feet of the company, but wanted to see what plans Ferranti had to save itself. The board, under Sir Derek Alun-Jones, had only two realistic ideas. The first was to get Ferranti taken over. The second was to put in place a fund-raising exercise which would come into play if the bidders failed to bite.

We all now know what happened to the bidders. British Aerospace pulled out only hours after the rights issue was underwritten and the others have disappeared as mysteriously as dollar bills in the International Signal accounts. Only the French group Thomson-CSF appears to be still interested, but not interested enough to get a bid unconditional by February 6. So the rights issue, meant to be a last resort, is now a reality and shareholders are being asked to open their cheque books.

Shareholders are being asked to increase their risk and exposure, while allowing the banks to reduce theirs. If Ferranti should fail, that means more for the banks and a yet bigger loss for shareholders. Those shareholders who refuse to pay over another 25p a share on top of the losses they have already suffered at the hands of the company will see their interest diluted to one-third its existing level. In the event of a bid, the bidder will make a bee-line for the high-voting preferred shares, rather than the diluted ordinary shares.

Shareholders can, of course, sell their rights in nil-paid form between February 5 and 26 and they may realize 12p to 13p a share. Then if Ferranti manages to get some money back from former deputy chairman, James Guerin, and his crew, they will get just one-third of what they would have otherwise received. My advice to shareholders is to approve the rights issue, because to do otherwise would be to risk the banks pulling out. They should then risk another 25p a share so long as they can afford to lose it. And they should use their double votes to vote the board out

one-third of the votes, with two-thirds being in the hands of the preferred shareholders. All this for a mere 25p a share. The ordinary shares currently trade at about 33p.

Too good to be true? You bet it is. All of the money, with the exception of the £6 million or so going to the underwriters, is going to the banks. It will flash through Ferranti's accounts at the speed of a Blue Streak rocket, rather than support the company's fixed or working capital needs. The board, by the way, is unable to state that the company has enough working capital to see the year out.

Brands: a slow burning issue

The debate over accounting for intangibles such as brands and goodwill threatens to escalate into one of those issues - like inflation accounting - that sets professionals at each other's throats and baffles the rest of the world.

For private shareholders, the present lack of clarity is profound. They hope, perhaps vainly, that their company's balance sheet should give them a reasonable snapshot of its worth and how this has changed since the previous year. Yet some companies are able to acquire brands and attribute great additional value to them while others indulge in an orgy of write-offs against newly owned assets which have cost a great deal. Both approaches are unlikely to be correct.

In wrestling with the general problem of intangibles, the Accounting Standards Committee is at last dealing with long overdue business. But there seems little likelihood that the theoreticians, who are well represented on the Committee, and the practitioners and industrialists out in the real world, are set for early agreement.

The purists are right to stress that there may be a great deal of subjectivity in an attempt to value something for which there is no easily determined market valuation. The obvious but unspoken

consequence is that if permitted without consistent guidelines freedom to value brands may become a licence to prop up stretched balance sheets which threaten to become a barrier to corporate ambition.

It is fatuous to suggest that the right to place a Coca Cola logo on a tin of fizzy water is not worth anything. But faced with the complexity of determining precisely how much, the ASC is proposing just that. Businesses which own portfolios of such brands and spend heavily on maintaining them are preparing to oppose any such moves strenuously.

Unfortunately, the ASC proposals for goodwill accounting are themselves under fire from industry. At present, companies have a choice of writing off goodwill to reserves or amortizing it over a period. The ASC wishes to remove the write-off option, which some might describe as ultra-conservative practice. Instead, companies must amortize goodwill over a maximum of 20 years, unless they can demonstrate that a longer period is suitable. A suitable test case might be Gordons Gin, distilled since the 17th century and still a market leader.

The danger is that compulsory amortization may damage published earnings per share and prevent otherwise commercially sound purchases.

WORLD MARKETS Bargain hunters cut early Dow losses

New York (Reuters) - The Dow Jones industrial average was down by 9.60 at 2,679.61 just before midday after falling to 2,671.00, where it had gained support. The general market remained broadly lower, but bargain-hunting continued to help blue chips recoup some losses.

Declining issues outnumbered rises by almost 1,000 to 300. Although the market had stemmed the headlong fall which began last Friday, analysts said that it could be vulnerable to any further weakness in Tokyo.

A drop there on Friday helped to start selling here. The US bond market was closed yesterday for the birthday of Martin Luther King.

● Frankfurt - The DAX index closed at 1,841.61, off 14.05.

● Sydney - The All-Ordinaries index slumped 31.9 to 1,681.7.

● Hong Kong - The Hang Seng index ended 49.25 lower at 2,786.69. The broader-based Hong Kong index ended 32.19 lower at 1,829.18.

● Singapore - The Straits Times industrial index slumped 33.63 to 1,525.54.

WALL STREET

Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 15	Jan 16
midday	close	midday	close	midday	close
Abn-Am	65 1/2	Enron	55 1/2	Ory-Eng	42 1/2
Am-B	54 1/2	Exxon	55 1/2	Pac-B	20 1/2
Am-C	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-C	20 1/2
Am-D	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-D	20 1/2
Am-E	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-E	20 1/2
Am-F	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-F	20 1/2
Am-G	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-G	20 1/2
Am-H	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-H	20 1/2
Am-I	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-I	20 1/2
Am-J	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-J	20 1/2
Am-K	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-K	20 1/2
Am-L	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-L	20 1/2
Am-M	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-M	20 1/2
Am-N	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-N	20 1/2
Am-O	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-O	20 1/2
Am-P	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-P	20 1/2
Am-Q	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-Q	20 1/2
Am-R	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-R	20 1/2
Am-S	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-S	20 1/2
Am-T	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-T	20 1/2
Am-U	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-U	20 1/2
Am-V	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-V	20 1/2
Am-W	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-W	20 1/2
Am-X	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-X	20 1/2
Am-Y	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-Y	20 1/2
Am-Z	54 1/2	Gen	55 1/2	Pac-Z	20 1/2

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily change	Yearly change	Daily change	Yearly change
The World	798.8	-0.4	21.0	-0.2	18.9
(free)	151.7	-0.4	20.9	-0.2	18.9
EAFF	1478.6	-0.4	20.8	-0.4	17.2
(free)	151.5	-0.4	15.5	-0.5	17.0
Europe	745.0	-1.1	37.6	-0.9	27.3
(free)	159.9	-1.1	38.1	-1.1	27.7
Nth America	500.3	-0.5	31.8	-0.6	21.1
Norfolk	1569.8	-0.9	44.8	-0.6	31.1
(free)	238.2	-1.0	58.0	-0.7	42.4
Pacific	3677.3	0.0	6.0	-0.1	12.4
Far East	5350.9	0.1	5.5	-0.1	12.3
Australia	345.7	-1.8	17.8	-1.8	16.8
Austria	1678.8	-3.8	147.2	-2.8	123.3
Belgium	970.6	-1.4	25.7	-0.9	9.6
Canada	569.8	0.4	29.1	0.5	15.5
Denmark	1308.1	-0.7	58.6	0.0	39.4
Finland	113.5	0.8	-2.1	-10.7	0.4
(free)	150.9	0.2	26.1	0.6	11.2
France	770.2	-1.0	43.3	-0.8	25.2
Germany	925.8	-1.2	62.7	-0.7	42.6
Hong Kong	2925.0	-1.8	9.5	-1.8	0.8
Italy	382.3	-0.9	30.4	-0.5	15.6
Japan	5895.5	0.2	4.9	0.0	12.2
Netherlands	878.1	-1.1	36.8	-0.7	19.7
New Zealand	101.3	-1.5	18.4	-1.5	12.4
Norway	1400.7	0.0	68.1	0.3	53.7
(free)	242.3	-0.1	67.3	0.2	53.0
Singapore	1978.3	-2.0	55.9	-2.3	39.5
Spain	223.3	-0.2	12.6	-0.1	0.3
Sweden	1771.9	-1.5	47.2	-1.3	35.8
(free)	248.8	-1.8	58.8	-1.7	44.7
Switzerland	908.3	-1.7	28.8	-1.2	28.1
(free)	139.5	-1.6	40.7	-1.1	29.9
UK	701.8	-1.2	28.5	-1.2	28.5
USA	448.5	-0.8	32.0	-0.7	21.6

Matched bargain for Tessa

Tessa Buckmaster, personal assistant-cum-investor relations adviser to Michael Green, the chief executive of television services and film duplication house Carlton Communications, clearly knows a good investment when she sees one - for she has just become engaged to her boss. Green ranks as one of the most eligible men in Britain. For, at the age of 42 he is the youngest chief executive of any of Britain's 146 alpha stocks, and his personal worth stands at more than £51 million. The *Guardian's* Young Businessman of the Year last year, Green, who left Haberdashers' School at the age of 17 without even an A-level, has been married before. His first wife, Janet Wolfson, is the daughter of Lord Wolfson and the cousin of Lord Young. Both Buckmaster and Green were being uncharacteristically coy about yesterday's happy announcement. But City sources tell me that Buckmaster has become a familiar figure within the Square Mile, accompanying Green wherever he goes. "She is very bubbly and great fun," says one City man, "and quite striking to look at." An Oxford graduate, she joined Carlton about three years ago as a "runner" and worked her way up from there. "He's a very nice man but married to his job, so they should get on quite well," says another. Our warmest congratulations to them both.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Turning out for Ernst

If the corporate finance department north of the border at Ernst & Young is a little more on the ball in future, it could be because of the impending arrival of Alan Montgomery as the director of corporate finance for Scotland - a newly created post. For he was the chief executive of Glasgow Rangers football club until December last year - and that celebrated last year, over the club's future direction, with its manager and coach, the former Liverpool star Graeme Souness. "My

Callum y el gran golpe

Spanish brokers, it seems, are importing a little British know-how in readiness for their own gran golpe (Big Bang) for those readers who take their holidays in the Cotswolds next year. For tomorrow, Callum Campbell, a former Phillips & Drew corporate financier, flies to Madrid for his new job as a Spanish equity dealer at Banesto Lombard y Leazco. As well as selling Spanish stocks to British institutions, Campbell, aged 24, will be in a team that plans to bring some financial sophistication to the Madrid stock market - by opening a futures and options market. It is illegal to sell short in Spain, effectively barring options trading, but Banesto - a merger between a bank and a broker, is working with the government to change the law. Once investors can hedge properly, it believes, the Madrid exchange will become far more attractive internationally. Campbell reckons that a Philippino upbringing and a Spanish 'A' level will help him cope with the language barrier, but is rather daunted at working in Banesto's 48-storey marble tower block, a building which he says, makes Broadgate look like a council estate. Peter Tyrre, boss of hotel group Balmoral, which is currently trying to get into the driving seat at Norfolk Capital Group, has taken to heart the teasing he has had in the Press about his expensive gold-plated Rolex watch. He now refuses to wear it - and sports a 20-year-old Omega instead.

Little bangs

Brokers at Manchester's Charlton Seal Schaverien, are laying down a challenge to their clients - by inviting them to form the opposing team in a war game. Played out of doors, with all participants wearing camouflage clothing and faces covered with blacking, the idea is that you try to "kill" all members of the enemy team by firing pellets full of brightly-colored paint. "It's a good way for us to be able to get back at them and vice versa," says Barry Frieslander, a half-commission man. "You end up looking absolutely horrendous - covered in mud and paint from the pellets. But it does create a feeling of camaraderie at the end of the day." Frieslander hopes that as many as 40 or 50 clients - both private and institutional - will express an interest in chasing around the Cheshire countryside in such a fashion.



Carol Leonard

Worst ling

...ive, continues to say that it will not pay over the bid. Kingfisher slipped 3p to 100p.

Ferranti, the electronics group, is to be sold for £187 million, a 15 per cent discount on the £215 million bid. The group is also being sold for £187 million, a 15 per cent discount on the £215 million bid. The group is also being sold for £187 million, a 15 per cent discount on the £215 million bid.

STC moved against the bid to show some resistance. The market is still concerned that the company is trying to maintain a computer share. The bid is being made by Siemens of West Germany. Oliver & Boyd is also a bidder.

The brewery sector was one of the few areas which managed to show some resistance to the downward trend. Last week, the drinks sector was hit by a sharp fall in share prices. Smith New Court, the broker recently published a bullish review of the sector, claiming that the interest in the sector will be above average. It also mentioned a number of companies which are expected to perform well this year. It also mentioned a number of companies which are expected to perform well this year.

Continued on page 27

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Whorley	Building Roads	
2	Levitt (VT)	Building Roads	
3	Auto Sec	Electronics	
4	Microfilm Regent	Electronics	
5	Micro Focus	Electronics	
6	Hummerston	Paper Print Adv	
7	Allied Lion	Property	
8	Johnson	Industrial E-K	
9	Brewitt (U)	Industrial E-K	
10	Cherwell Cons	Industrial A-D	
11	Repsol	Industrial L-R	
12	Tipbuck	Shipping	
13	T & S Stores	Drugs Stores	
14	Seabury	Building Roads	
15	Amec	Building Roads	
16	Middlemore	Leisure	
17	Deans	Industrial A-D	
18	Silco (m)	Industrial S-Z	
19	T & N (m)	Industrial S-Z	
20	Blackwell	Building Roads	
21	Claxton	Industrial E-K	
22	Greenwood Sec	Leisure	
23	Carlson Cons	Leisure	
24	Ludlow (m)	Hotel Caterers	
25	AAF Int	Industrial A-D	
26	Evans Of Leeds	Property	
27	Mowlem (Jm)	Building Roads	
28	Allied-Lyons (m)	Electronics	
29	Bowater	Industrial A-D	
30	Life Sciences	Electronics	
31	Nail (O)	Industrial L-R	
32	Optical & Med	Industrial L-R	
33	STC (m)	Electronics	
34	Chaston	Building Roads	
35	Whitman Rowe	Industrial E-K	
36	Fairly Group	Industrial E-K	
37	Saint (O)	Building Roads	
38	Easton	Newspapers Pub	
39	Easton (m)	Newspapers Pub	
40	MEPC (m)	Property	
41	Land Sec (m)	Property	
42	Chaston St	Industrial A-D	
43	Boltona Security	Electronics	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £12,000 in Sunday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS		
High	Low	Mid

SHORTS (Under Five Years)		
High	Low	Mid

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS		
High	Low	Mid

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS		
High	Low	Mid

UNDATED		
High	Low	Mid

INDEX-LINKED		
High	Low	Mid

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP		
High	Low	Mid

ELECTRICALS		
High	Low	Mid

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Further falls

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began yesterday. Dealings end January 26. Settlement day January 29. Settlement day February 5.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 22).

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

BREWERIES						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

BUILDING, ROADS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

FINANCE, LAND						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

FOODS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

DRAPERY, STORES						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

HOTELS, CATERERS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

E-K						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

L-R						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

S-Z						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS E-K						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

E-K						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

L-R						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

S-Z						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS E-K						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

E-K						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

L-R						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

S-Z						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS E-K						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

Portfolio PLATINUM

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DAILY DIVIDEND
£2,000

Claims required for +32 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

PROPERTY						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

SHIPPING						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

SHOES, LEATHER						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

TEXTILES						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

TOBACCO						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

WATER						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E

© Ex dividend a Ex sh b Forecast dividend a Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment h Pre-merger figures i Forecast earnings o Ex other f Ex rights a Ex scrip o there split i Tax-free No significant data.

[illegible]

1989/90						1989/90						1989/90						1989/90											
High	Low	Company	Est	Offer	Change	High	Low	Company	Est	Offer	Change	High	Low	Company	Est	Offer	Change	High	Low	Company	Est	Offer	Change	High	Low	Company	Est	Offer	Change
76	75	ADP	...	...	...	118	117	ADP	...	...	...	120	119	ADP	...	...	...	122	121	ADP	...	...	...	124	123	ADP	...	...	...
77	76	ADP	...	...	...	119	118	ADP	...	...	...	121	120	ADP	...	...	...	123	122	ADP	...	...	...	125	124	ADP	...	...	...
78	77	ADP	...	...	...	120	119	ADP	...	...	...	122	121	ADP	...	...	...	124	123	ADP	...	...	...	126	125	ADP	...	...	...
79	78	ADP	...	...	...	121	120	ADP	...	...	...	123	122	ADP	...	...	...	125	124	ADP	...	...	...	127	126	ADP	...	...	...
80	79	ADP	...	...	...	122	121	ADP	...	...	...	124	123	ADP	...	...	...	126	125	ADP	...	...	...	128	127	ADP	...	...	...
81	80	ADP	...	...	...	123	122	ADP	...	...	...	125	124	ADP	...	...	...	127	126	ADP	...	...	...	129	128	ADP	...	...	...
82	81	ADP	...	...	...	124	123	ADP	...	...	...	126	125	ADP	...	...	...	128	127	ADP	...	...	...	130	129	ADP	...	...	...
83	82	ADP	...	...	...	125	124	ADP	...	...	...	127	126	ADP	...	...	...	129	128	ADP	...	...	...	131	130	ADP	...	...	...
84	83	ADP	...	...	...	126	125	ADP	...	...	...	128	127	ADP	...	...	...	130	129	ADP	...	...	...	132	131	ADP	...	...	...
85	84	ADP	...	...	...	127	126	ADP	...	...	...	129	128	ADP	...	...	...	131	130	ADP	...	...	...	133	132	ADP	...	...	...
86	85	ADP	...	...	...	128	127	ADP	...	...	...	130	129	ADP	...	...	...	132	131	ADP	...	...	...	134	133	ADP	...	...	...
87	86	ADP	...	...	...	129	128	ADP	...	...	...	131	130	ADP	...	...	...	133	132	ADP	...	...	...	135	134	ADP	...	...	...
88	87	ADP	...	...	...	130	129	ADP	...	...	...	132	131	ADP	...	...	...	134	133	ADP	...	...	...	136	135	ADP	...	...	...
89	88	ADP	...	...	...	131	130	ADP	...	...	...	133	132	ADP	...	...	...	135	134	ADP	...	...	...	137	136	ADP	...	...	...
90	89	ADP	...	...	...	132	131	ADP	...	...	...	134	133	ADP	...	...	...	136	135	ADP	...	...	...	138	137	ADP	...	...	...
91	90	ADP	...	...	...	133	132	ADP	...	...	...	135	134	ADP	...	...	...	137	136	ADP	...	...	...	139	138	ADP	...	...	...
92	91	ADP	...	...	...	134	133	ADP	...	...	...	136	135	ADP	...	...	...	138	137	ADP	...	...	...	140	139	ADP	...	...	...
93	92	ADP	...	...	...	135	134	ADP	...	...	...	137	136	ADP	...	...	...	139	138	ADP	...	...	...	141	140	ADP	...	...	...
94	93	ADP	...	...	...	136	135	ADP	...	...	...	138	137	ADP	...	...	...	140	139	ADP	...	...	...	142	141	ADP	...	...	...
95	94	ADP	...	...	...	137	136	ADP	...	...	...	139	138	ADP	...	...	...	141	140	ADP	...	...	...	143	142	ADP	...	...	...
96	95	ADP	...	...	...	138	137	ADP	...	...	...	140	139	ADP	...	...	...	142	141	ADP	...	...	...	144	143	ADP	...	...	...
97	96	ADP	...	...	...	139	138	ADP	...	...	...	141	140	ADP	...	...	...	143	142	ADP	...	...	...	145	144	ADP	...	...	...
98	97	ADP	...	...	...	140	139	ADP	...	...	...	142	141	ADP	...	...	...	144	143	ADP	...	...	...	146	145	ADP	...	...	...
99	98	ADP	...	...	...	141	140	ADP	...	...	...	143	142	ADP	...	...	...	145	144	ADP	...	...	...	147	146	ADP	...	...	...
100	99	ADP	...	...	...	142	141	ADP	...	...	...	144	143	ADP	...	...	...	146	145	ADP	...	...	...	148	147	ADP	...	...	...
101	100	ADP	...	...	...	143	142	ADP	...	...	...	145	144	ADP	...	...	...	147	146	ADP	...	...	...	149	148	ADP	...	...	...
102	101	ADP	...	...	...	144	143	ADP	...	...	...	146	145	ADP	...	...	...	148	147	ADP	...	...	...	150	149	ADP	...	...	...
103	102	ADP	...	...	...	145	144	ADP	...	...	...	147	146	ADP	...	...	...	149	148	ADP	...	...	...	151	150	ADP	...	...	...
104	103	ADP	...	...	...	146	145	ADP	...	...	...	148	147	ADP	...	...	...	150	149	ADP	...	...	...	152	151	ADP	...	...	...
105	104	ADP	...	...	...	147	146	ADP	...	...	...	149	148	ADP	...	...	...	151	150	ADP	...	...	...	153	152	ADP	...	...	...
106	105	ADP	...	...	...	148	147	ADP	...	...	...	150	149	ADP	...	...	...	152	151	ADP	...	...	...	154	153	ADP	...	...	...
107	106	ADP	...	...	...	149	148	ADP	...	...	...	151	150	ADP	...	...	...	153	152	ADP	...	...	...	155	154	ADP	...	...	...
108	107	ADP	...	...	...	150	149	ADP	...	...	...	152	151	ADP	...	...	...	154	153	ADP	...	...	...	156	155	ADP	...	...	...
109	108	ADP	...	...	...	151	150	ADP	...	...	...	153	152	ADP	...	...	...	155	154	ADP	...	...	...	157	156	ADP	...	...	...
110	109	ADP	...	...	...	152	151	ADP	...	...	...	154	153	ADP	...	...	...	156	155	ADP	...	...	...	158	157	ADP	...	...	...
111	110	ADP	...	...	...	153	152	ADP	...	...	...	155	154	ADP	...	...	...	157	156	ADP	...	...	...	159	158	ADP	...	...	...
112	111	ADP	...	...	...	154	153	ADP	...	...	...	156	155	ADP	...	...	...	158	157	ADP	...	...	...	160	159	ADP	...	...	...
113	112	ADP	...	...	...	155	154	ADP	...	...	...	157	156	ADP	...	...	...	159	158	ADP	...	...	...	161	160	ADP	...	...	...
114	113	ADP	...	...	...	156	155	ADP	...	...	...	158	157	ADP	...	...	...	160	159	ADP	...	...	...	162	161	ADP	...	...	...
115	114	ADP	...	...	...	157	156	ADP	...	...	...	159	158	ADP	...	...	...	161	160	ADP	...	...	...	163	162	ADP	...	...	...
116	115	ADP	...	...	...	158	157	ADP	...	...	...	160	159	ADP	...	...	...	162	161	ADP	...	...	...	164	163	ADP	...	...	...
117	116	ADP	...	...	...	159	158	ADP	...	...	...	161	160	ADP	...	...	...	163	162	ADP	...	...	...	165	164	ADP	...	...	...
118	117	ADP	...	...	...	160	159	ADP	...	...	...	162	161	ADP	...	...	...	164	163	ADP	...	...	...	166	165	ADP	...	...	...
119	118	ADP	...	...	...	161	160	ADP	...	...	...	163	162	ADP	...	...	...	165	164	ADP	...	...	...	167	166	ADP	...	...	...
120	119	ADP	...	...	...	162	161	ADP	...	...	...	164	163	ADP	...	...	...	166	165	ADP	...	...	...	168	167	ADP	...	...	...
121	120	ADP	...	...	...	163	162	ADP	...	...	...	165	164	ADP	...	...	...	167	166	ADP	...	...	...	169	168	ADP	...	...	...
122	121	ADP	...	...	...	164	163	ADP	...	...	...	166	165	ADP	...	...	...	168	167	ADP	...	...	...	170	169	ADP	...	...	...
123	122	ADP	...	...	...	165	164	ADP	...	...	...	167	166	ADP	...	...	...	169	168	ADP	...	...	...	171	170	ADP	...	...	...
124	123	ADP	...	...	...	166	165	ADP	...	...	...	168	167	ADP	...	...	...	170	169	ADP	...	...	...	172	171	ADP	...	...	...
125	124	ADP	...	...	...	167	166	ADP	...	...	...	169	168	ADP	...	...	...	171	170	ADP	...	...	...	173	172	ADP	...	...	...
126	125	ADP	...	...	...	168	167	ADP	...	...	...	170	169	ADP	...	...	...	172	171	ADP	...	...	...	174	173	ADP	...	...	...
127	126	ADP	...	...	...	169	168	ADP	...	...	...	171	170	ADP	...	...	...	173	172	ADP	...	...	...	175	174	ADP	...	...	...
128	127	ADP	...	...	...	170	169	ADP	...	...	...	172	171	ADP	...	...	...	174	173	ADP	...	...	...	176	175	ADP	...	...	...
129	128	ADP	...	...	...	171	170	ADP	...	...	...	173	172	ADP	...	...	...	175	174	ADP	...	...	...	177	176	ADP	...	...	...
130	129	ADP	...	...	...	172	171	ADP	...	...	...	174	173	ADP	...	...	...	176	175	ADP	...	...	...	178	177	ADP	...	...	...
131	130	ADP	...	...	...	173	172	ADP	...	...	...	175	174	ADP	...	...	...	177	176	ADP	...	...	...	179	178	ADP	...	...	...
132	131	ADP	...	...	...	174	173	ADP	...	...	...	176	175	ADP	...	...	...	178	177	ADP	...	...	...	180	179	ADP	...	...	...
133	132	ADP	...	...	...	175	174	ADP	...	...	...	177	176	ADP	...	...	...	179	178	ADP	...	...	...	181	180	ADP	...	...	...
134	133	ADP	...	...	...	176	175	ADP	...	...	...	178	177	ADP	...	...	...	180	179	ADP	...	...	...	182	181	ADP	...	...	...
135	134	ADP	...	...	...	177	176	ADP	...	...	...	179	178	ADP	...	...	...	181	180	ADP	...	...	...	183	182	ADP	...	...	...
136	135	ADP	...	...	...	178	177	ADP	...	...	...	180	179	ADP	...	...	...	182	181	ADP	...	...	...	184	183	ADP	...	...	...
137	136	ADP	...	...	...	179	178	ADP	...	...	...	181	180	ADP	...	...	...	183	182	ADP	...	...	...	185	184	ADP	...	...	...
138	137	ADP	...	...	...	180	179	ADP	...	...	...	182	181	ADP	...	...	...	184	183	ADP	...	...	...			

FOREIGN EXCHANGES				
Exchange Index compared with 1985 was up at 88.5 (day's range 88.4-88.6).				
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES				
Market rates for January 15				
	Rate	Close	1 month	3 months
New York	1.8396-1.8720	1.8395-1.8545	1.85-1.8625	2.77-2.7825
Mumbai	1.9274-1.9350	1.9133-1.9250	0.92-0.94	1.42-1.43
Amsterdam	3.1842-3.1785	3.1873-3.1759	13-14 1/4	4% -4 3/4%
London	160.58-161	160.55-160.58	29-29 1/2	70-70 1/2
Copenhagen	10.87-10.875	10.870-10.875	10-10 1/2	11-11 1/2
Dublin	1.051-1.0523	1.0544-1.0559	34-39	91-91 1/2
Frankfurt	2.2506-2.2763	2.2510-2.2513	17-14 1/4	4% -4 1/2%
Helsinki	127.3-127.35	127.35-127.41	117-117 1/2	117-117 1/2
Madrid	182.83-182.90	182.87-182.91	1-1 1/2	1-1 1/2
Milan	2083.30-2089.20	2085.16-2086.10	6-4 1/4	13-13 1/2
Osaka	10.5309-10.5335	10.5309-10.5335	50-51 1/4	51-51 1/4
Paris	5.4540-5.5752	5.5951-5.5752	9-9 1/4	9 1/4-9 1/4
Stockholm	10.743-10.2494	10.1673-10.2020	21-21 1/4	4% -4 1/2%
Tokyo	261.75-261.85	261.75-261.85	125-126 1/2	31 1/2-32 1/2
Vienna	8.76-19.35	18.77-19.30	14-14 1/4	4% -4 1/2%
Zurich	2.5020-2.5123	2.5061-2.5082	13-14 1/4	3% -3 1/2%

Premiums = p.p. Discount = d.s.

OTHER STERLING RATES	
Australia dollar	2.2567-2.3040-4
Canada dollar	2.2689-2.2750
Belgian franc	0.0255-0.0335
Brazil cruzeiro *	20.2629-20.2670
Cypriot pound	0.1780-0.1785
Finland mark	0.5540-0.6510
German Deutsch	261.15-264.25
Hong Kong dollar	13.0000-13.0150
India rupee	15-15 1/2
Kuwait dinar K.O.	0.4335-0.4355
Malaysian ringgit	4.4625-4.4627
Netherlands guilder	0.3600-0.3605
New Zealand dollar	2.7303-2.7305
Saudi Arabian riyal	0.2125-0.2295
Singapore dollar	0.5000-0.5005
S African rand (f)	5.5374-5.5454
S African rand (com)	4.4240-4.4265
U.A.E. Dirham	0.6975-0.1575

* 1000 cruzeiros = 1 real.
 Source: Bank, Rates supplied by Cable

[illegible][illegible]

Open	High	Low	Close	Vol	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
SE 100					Three Month ECU				
00	2387.0	2387.0	2387.0	2387.0	Mar 90	89.17	89.17	Previous open interest 7777	
01	2387.0	2387.0	2387.0	6521	Jun 90	89.12	89.12	89.12	301
Three Month Sterling					US Treasury Bond				
00	85.04	85.04	85.04	94.81	Mar 90	95.17	95.17	Previous open interest 3467	
01	85.05	85.05	85.05	33794	Jun 90	95.19	95.19	95.17	1724
Three Month Eurodollar					Long Gilt				
00	91.34	91.36	91.36	91.32	Mar 90	95.28	95.28	Previous open interest 3467	
01	91.38	91.38	91.38	91.32	Jun 90	95.29	95.29	95.27	1724
Three Month Aussie Dollar					Japanese Govt Bond				
00	91.48	91.50	91.50	91.48	Mar 90	95.23	95.23	Previous open interest 626	
01	91.49	91.52	91.52	91.48	Jun 90	95.23	95.23	95.23	1000
German Govt Bond					German Govt Bond				
00	91.48	91.48	91.48	91.48	Mar 90	95.23	95.23	Previous open interest 626	
01	91.49	91.52	91.52	91.48	Jun 90	95.23	95.23	95.23	1000

LONDON FOX

below the	COCOA	AMT Futures
28	May 686-697	Dec 689-700
28	May 687-691	May 715-716
28	Jul 684-695	Jul 715-716
28	Jul 687-690	Vol 4174
28	COPPER	AMT Futures
28	May 679-679	Dec 689-700
28	May 687-688	May 715-716
28	May 614-615	Jul 715-716
28	Jul 671-672	Vol 4174
28	SUGAR	C Cinnamon
28	Jul 623.5-624.0	Vol 4680
28	May 624.0-625.0	May 614-615
28	Jul 621.4-621.8	Jul 614-615
28	Aug 621.4-621.8	Aug 614-615

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

below the	Critical prices/values previous day	Radioil Wofft	Vol
28	(P/times)	Cash	3 months
28	Copper: Ode A	1 439.0-1440.0	1418.0-1450.0
28	Zinc: Spn Gde*	1419.0-1420.0	1418.0-1417.0
28	Tian**	1280.0-1285.0	1250.0-1280.0
28	Aluminum**	1262.0-1261.0	1263.0-1268.0
28	Vol 4680	1262.0-1263.0	115685
28	May 614.0-615.0	1262.0-1263.0	4820
28	Jul 614.0-615.0	1450.0-1500.0	287100
28	Aug 614.0-615.0	7450-7500	9072
28	May 614.0-615.0	7500-7550	8750
28	Jul 614.0-615.0		
28	Aug 614.0-615.0		

LONDON BEAT FUTURES (Pkg)

below the	Line Pkg	Close	Open	Close	Open
28	Feb	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Mar	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Apr	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	May	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Jun	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Jul	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Aug	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Sep	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Oct	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Nov	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Dec	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5

LONDON LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

below the	Ar/Gr	Ar/Gr	Ar/Gr	Ar/Gr	Ar/Gr
28	Feb	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Mar	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Apr	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	May	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Jun	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Jul	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Aug	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Sep	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Oct	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Nov	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5
28	Dec	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5

Continued from
page 24

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on
next page

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Our client, a European Investment Bank, is a major player in the cross-border mergers and acquisitions market. They have an opening for a qualified solicitor with an excellent academic record. You must have gained at least one years post qualification experience in a top London corporate practice or in another leading financial institution. This is an opportunity to build a career in a highly competitive, commercial environment. Language skills an added bonus.

For further details please contact Mandy Browne or Judith Farmer on (01) 583 0073 (Day) or (01) 840 5496 (Evenings and Weekends). Or fax your CV on (01) 353 3908. 16-18 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6AU.

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Commercial Lawyer

Central London

to £35,000 + Car

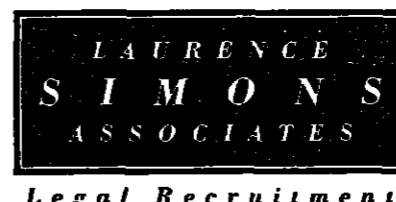
Our client is a highly regarded and broadly based engineering company, operating on a global scale with annual sales approaching £800 million and nearly 11,000 employees worldwide.

A first class opportunity exists for a commercial lawyer to join the legal department at the company's headquarters in central London. The appointee will become a key member of a small team advising and assisting operating units and management at all levels. The work is extremely varied and will involve drafting and negotiating contracts ranging from supply and service contracts to joint venture and intellectual property agreements. It will include managing litigation, liaising with external counsel and assisting with acquisitions and disposals. Some travel will be involved within the UK and overseas and this will often be at short notice.

Applicants will be solicitors or barristers, preferably with at least two years' relevant experience, gained in the industrial sector. Essential personal characteristics include effective negotiating skills, a high level of commercial awareness and a positive, practical and persuasive approach.

This important position carries an attractive salary, company car and excellent benefits.

For further information please contact Carl Batty on 01-831 3270 (01-948 1594 evenings/weekends), or write to him enclosing a CV at Laurence Simons Associates, 33 John's Mews, London WC1N 2NS. All approaches will be treated in strict confidence.



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Closing date: 31st January, 1990.

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Application form and further details from County Personnel Officer, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX, or telephone (0245) 492211 Ext. 24101.



Essex County Council

'Unite and speak as one'

This week, the Government's Bill to overhaul the courts and lawyers' practices starts its committee stage. It is intended to resolve the long-running dispute between solicitors and barristers. But all the signs are that, whatever the outcome, one side or the other will see itself as defeated and be unwilling to allow the whole question to go away.

The parliamentary debate may appear to focus on forms of words designed to guide those who will be entrusted with the granting or withholding of rights to appear in certain courts. But the reality is that properly qualified solicitors will either gain ready access to the higher courts or they will not. If they do, it is clear that the Bar will fight on, both to restrict the exercise of those rights and to reverse the position. There is already talk on that side of the 'start of a 100 years war'.

Equally, if solicitors do not gain access to all those courts where they have the qualifications and experience to exercise them, they are unlikely to accept the position now any more than they have done in recent years.

For many people, though, the mere fact that this dispute, which has been running on and off for at least 20 years, has been portrayed as a war, with talk of battles and victories, is acutely depressing. What, if anything, can be done to



achieve a reconciliation? The root of this problem lies, I believe, in the existence in this country, not of one legal profession, but two. From the first or second year in university, if not earlier, law students are encouraged to select a career as a barrister or solicitor. From then on their development as lawyers proceeds down wholly separate paths. They are trained and then admitted by one or other of two separate professional bodies, and ever after are responsible for their professional conduct exclusively to that body and the courts.

I suspect that the public in general and our professional colleagues in Europe find this all very strange. The very title 'solicitor' is so old-fashioned and meaningless as to add to the confusion.

Sir Jonathan Clarke advocates a whole new philosophy for the legal profession

The time has surely come to put an end to this partition and to forge a truly unified legal profession, governed by one body, with a common system of training and qualification and in which all members feel not a sense of enmity but a sense of unity.

Before I am written off as one who proposes fusion in the sense in which that word is usually understood — that is, not only a fusion of the two professions but the production of lawyers free to practise in any field of law — let me say that this is far from what I mean. Common professional education does not necessarily involve every student taking the same combination of subjects, any more than that every law graduate has studied the same subjects. A

range of options aimed at the probable field of practice can be devised without much difficulty. The way towards this has recently been eased by the acceptance of a truly 'Common' professional examination for non-law graduates who wish to train for one or other of the existing qualifications. Thereafter, the 'lawyer', having been admitted by a single professional body, would need to prepare himself or herself by further training and relevant experience for the chosen field.

Just as a doctor who has obtained a basic qualification undertakes further training to become an anaesthetist or a paediatrician, so a lawyer may decide to gain a qualification as a conveyancer, or as a company

lawyer, or perhaps as a criminal lawyer and advocate.

Advocacy in the Crown Courts, where criminal cases are heard, has very little in common with advocacy in other courts where civil, chancery and administrative cases are tried. This should be reflected in the training and experience of those who choose a particular field, or fields.

Within such a unified profession there would be room for, and an important role for, the Inns of Court as the bodies responsible for the training of all lawyers who wish to undertake advocacy, and to which all lawyers with an advocacy certificate to appear in a particular court would belong.

These lawyers (barristers, if that is the name they wish to retain) far from having to share rights of audience with others, would then have exclusive rights to appear in all courts. Some would, no doubt, be licensed to appear only in magistrates' courts; some only in the Chancery Division; some in two or more courts. Some would operate as members of a firm of lawyers. Others, no doubt, would prefer to work alone from chambers or elsewhere. Thus, the future and strength of the Bar (albeit as a unit within an overall profession) would be ensured. The independence of such a Bar would be as



Sir Jonathan Clarke says: "End the division between the professions" — great as the independence of that profession itself.

Would solicitors then be members of an Inn? I can hear the horror in the question. But no. In a unified profession such as this there would be no solicitors. Simply lawyers, each of whom has chosen an area or a combination of areas in which to work.

The Lord Chancellor, in publishing his proposals, indicated that he wanted to go back to first principles. Perhaps he should take the initiative and invite both the chairman of the Bar and the president of the Law Society to consider the creation of a truly unified legal profession in which — whatever the outcome of the present Bill — there would be no victors and no losers.

There is, surely, a danger that in becoming so obsessed with and weakened by this internal and public 'war', lawyers here will fail to grasp the full opportunities that are opening up in the new Europe. Are English lawyers to speak in Europe with one voice, or two?

● The author, a past president of the Law Society, is a circuit judge.

THE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS' AWARD

This week is the last opportunity for those who were aged between 17 and 24 on November 7, 1989, to enter The Times second annual Young Professionals' Award competition, sponsored by Fishburn Boxer, the London solicitors.

To enter, write an article of no more than 700 words on the theme of legal awards that: *The law is right to value reputation more than life or limb.*

● PRIZES: The winner will receive £1,000 cash and a Pison MC68000 mobile computer worth about £1,500. The

two runners-up will each get £250 cash and a Pison Organiser II hand-held computer.

● JUDGES: The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Chalfont, the editor of The Times, Charles Wilson, and Clive Boxer, senior partner of Fishburn Boxer.

● ENTRIES TO: The Times/Fishburn Boxer "Young Professionals' Award, FAO Kim Robertson, c/o Epigram, New Bank House, 28-30 Little Russell Street, London, WC1A 2HN.

● CLOSING DATE: Friday, January 19.

Law Report January 16 1990 Court of Appeal

Parliament invited to reconsider sentencing policy on young offenders

Regina v Scott (Tracey)

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Leggatt and Mr Justice Hutchison

[Judgment January 15]

The fact that the wording of section 123 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 was such that a court considering imposition of a sentence in a young offender institution was only entitled to take into account the gravity of each individual offence was a matter which ought to have the attention of Parliament as soon as possible.

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, so stated when giving the judgment of the Court of Appeal on an appeal by Tracey Scott, aged 20, the mother of a babe in arms, who was sentenced on January 2, 1990 at Fiddersfield Crown Court by

Judge Pickles to six months detention in a young offender institution in respect of an offence of attempted theft and nine offences of theft, to which she had pleaded guilty on October 5, 1989. She had pleaded not guilty to a count of conspiracy to steal, her plea was accepted and a verdict of not guilty entered.

His Lordship stated that, had the appellant been present — she had elected not to be — the court would there and then have been able to quash the sentence and impose a probation order for two years if she consented.

Section 123, which amended the Criminal Justice Act 1982 by inserting in section 1 a new subsection (3A) and substituting a new subsection for subsection (4), provides:

(3A) ... the only custodial orders that a court may make where a person under 21 years of

age is convicted or found guilty of an offence are — (a) a sentence of detention in a young offender institution under section 1A below, ...

(4) A court may not — (a) pass a sentence of detention in a young offender institution ... unless it is satisfied — (i) that the circumstances, including the nature and the gravity of the offence, are such that if the offender were aged 21 or over the court would pass a sentence of imprisonment; and (ii) that he qualifies for a custodial sentence.

(4A) An offender qualifies for a custodial sentence if — (a) he has a history of failure to respond to non-custodial penalties and is unable or unwilling to respond to them; or (b) only a custodial sentence would be adequate to protect the public from serious harm from him; or

(c) the offence of which he has been convicted or found guilty was so serious that a non-custodial sentence for it cannot be justified."

Miss Jill Bradshaw, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the charges arose out of the appellant's dishonest conduct in her employment as a check-out assistant at a Huddersfield supermarket, where she had been employed for about 18 months.

Those customers who were prosecuted suffered a variety of penalties varying from three months imprisonment, through six weeks detention, 28 days detention, 21 days imprisonment, to community service and monetary discharge. For the most part those sentences were passed on November 3.

The three-month prison sentence was ordered to be suspended by another division of the Court of Appeal on November 17 and on the same date the six-week detention sentence was set aside and the immediate release of the appellant was ordered.

Those sentence appeals were allowed on six weeks or so before the present appellant was sentenced. Judge Pickles did have his attention drawn to the outcome of those appeals.

On November 17 the appellant appeared for sentence, having recovered from the birth of her baby on October 26, 1989. Questions then arose as to whether there was any possibility of a place being available in a prison mother-and-baby unit.

Then the judge expatiated on the undoubted evils of shoplifting and described what the appellant had done as "looting the store or helping others to loot the store". He made it plain that he was intending to pass a custodial sentence.

It was impossible to give any accurate estimate of the amount of the loss suffered by the store. The appellant guessed that it was about £4,000.

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Those customers who were prosecuted suffered a variety of penalties varying from three months imprisonment, through six weeks detention, 28 days detention, 21 days imprisonment, to community service and monetary discharge. For the most part those sentences were passed on November 3.

The three-month prison sentence was ordered to be suspended by another division of the Court of Appeal on November 17 and on the same date the six-week detention sentence was set aside and the immediate release of the appellant was ordered.

Those sentence appeals were allowed on six weeks or so before the present appellant was sentenced. Judge Pickles did have his attention drawn to the outcome of those appeals.

On November 17 the appellant appeared for sentence, having recovered from the birth of her baby on October 26, 1989. Questions then arose as to whether there was any possibility of a place being available in a prison mother-and-baby unit.

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The matter was adjourned for inquiries to be made from the prison service as to the availability of a place. Meanwhile the appellant was released on bail.

The matter was re-listed on November 24. The judge in chambers with a shorthand writer present explained why he was intending to pass a custodial sentence: (i) because she had stolen; and (ii) because others described as less culpable than her had been sent to prison.

It did not appear that the judge was by that time aware of the Court of Appeal's judgment on November 17, although he certainly was told about it later.

Once again the prison authorities were asked to find a place, which was proving very difficult. Counsel then told the judge what had happened in the Court of Appeal. Criminal Division, but the judge seemed unmoved by the news.

Once again the matter was adjourned with the clear intimation that, as soon as arrangements could be made for the baby to accompany the mother in a young offender institution that was where the appellant would go.

Certainly this defendant had been and was a young woman who could profit from advice and guidance if she was willing to accept it. Single, living alone, she left school with no qualifications.

She was successful and highly thought of by the supermarket she eventually defrauded and was given full-time employment by them.

She had no previous record of dishonesty or of any criminal behaviour. She would, undoubtedly have great problems to face when she was released, not least with the baby.

Custodial sentences on defendants under 21 were governed by section 123 of the 1988 Act. It was not altogether clear what the difference was between "the circumstances are such that, if the offender were over 21 the court would pass a sentence of imprisonment" and "the offence is so serious that a non-custodial sentence cannot be justified."

There had to be a difference, otherwise the latter would be tautologous.

It had, presumably, to be that some cases were sufficiently

serious to warrant imprisonment for an adult but not sufficiently serious to warrant imprisonment for the under 21s — that is, it had to be extra serious to warrant that person going to detention.

The principal question which the judge had to decide, albeit a difficult one, was whether this was such a case and, if so, what the proper length of any custodial term should be.

What he had to say about the prevalence of shoplifting and the attitude of some people towards the offence was, no doubt, true and was relevant to the deterrent aspect of punishment.

Unfortunately, the judge also saw fit to unburden himself on the topic of young women who might be minded to invite pregnancy in order to escape a prison sentence.

If the defendant was a mother of a babe in arms that might be one of the many factors which the sentencing judge had to take into account, but the impression was left, whether intentionally or not, by the judge's remarks that he was using the case to illustrate the unwisdom of embarking upon pregnancy for such a reason.

That such an impression should be left was most unfortunate.

Assuming, for the purposes of argument only and without deciding the question, that this was a case where a defendant over 21 would necessarily have gone to prison, was it so serious that a non-custodial sentence would not be justified? It did not, in their Lordships' judgment fell into that category.

1 The fact that some of the thieves had been given custodial sentences was not material, quite apart from the fact that those who had appealed had had their appeals allowed.

The thieves who were over 21 were subject to different considerations inapplicable for section 123 while those under 21 were not, so it seemed given the benefit of the section 123 provisions by the judge.

2 The suggestion, implicit if not expressed, in what the judge said about the incidence of shoplifting — or looting — was that the sentence was imposed to deter others. The appellant was not the proper subject of a sentence of that nature.

3 The same considerations applied to the appellant.

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THE LAW

Raising the legal standards

Edward Fennel tells how a pressure group is tackling legal education

The legal community is a rich mixture of competition and co-operation, and nowhere is this better illustrated than in the two-year-old Legal Education Training Group. The purpose of the group, which has about 80 members, is to raise standards of legal education among law firms and to provide mutual self-help between professional trainers and those partners who have education responsibilities.

The group is ambitious. It wants to expand and is particularly keen to attract new members from outside London. The chairman, Paul Rylance, of Slaughter & May, says: "We help all newcomers in every way we can. We want to bring firms and individuals into the group, not keep anybody out."

And yet, is there not a danger with such a group that once members are inside the cosy atmosphere of mutual self-help (rather like the original Lloyd's Coffee House, as they describe it), "trade secrets" will be given away that could blunt the cutting edge of individual firms?

Much is made these days of the



Trio with ambitious plans: Avrom Sher (left), Paul Rylance and Tony King of the Legal Education Training Group

importance of education as a way of giving firms a competitive advantage, and yet the group appears to be offering itself with *bonhomie* as a forum where all kinds of tips and hints on good practice can be exchanged between people who are supposed to be rivals.

That was exactly the worry raised by partners in some firms when the group was being set up," Rylance says. "But that is not the way we operate. It's true that we all have our own particular trade secrets but we don't disclose them. Instead, it is in everyone's interests

that standards of education are raised because the mutual advantage is much greater than any individual disadvantage."

Often, individual members appear to have more in common with one another than with the firms for which they work. In particular, the professional trainers, who may have an academic background, may receive more sympathy from their opposite numbers than from their employers.

Although education is no longer a Cinderella activity in the legal world it does have to compete for its place

against many other demands on partners' time and resources. The solidarity of education specialists within the group enables members to fight their corner more effectively because education is seen to be an activity that cannot be overlooked. That is why the group is keen to have partners as members.

"The advantage of having fee-earners in the group is that they can bring a realistic, commercial perspective to our discussions. It gives the educationist an opportunity to test out some of their more ambitious ideas and see whether

they will be convincing or not."

Rylance is helped in the running of the group by Tony King, of Clifford Chance, and Avrom Sher, who combines an academic post at Warwick University with an educational role at Macfarlanes. By going for this breadth of experience the group believes it can have some influence in the development of education within the law as a whole.

"But I don't think we want to become too much under the auspices of the Law Society," King says. "I think we can be more effective as a pressure group from the outside."

Alongside improving members' performance and status as individuals, the group is keen to voice its views as consumers of externally provided educational services. Commercial legal education is of variable style and standards and the group is interested in the possibility of becoming a catalyst in improving some of the products coming on to the market.

Although the group will resist the temptation to organize conferences and produce material itself, it wants to have an influence on educational products at an earlier stage. In particular, it wants to convert some of the standard training techniques used by mainstream industry and commerce into a form that is acceptable to law firms.

If you have any ideas on legal education, Rylance and his colleagues would be delighted to hear from you on 01-600 1200.

INNS AND OUTS

The Law Society's search for an "arm's length" director for its Solicitors' Complaints Bureau has raised a few eyebrows. Why did the society go to an expensive head-hunting firm? And why is that firm, Korn Ferry International, running a series of advertisements for the post in the national press? Korn Ferry's fee is usually 33.3 per cent of the salary offered, plus bonuses - often payable whether or not the search is successful. For that, the client gets a discreet approach to likely candidates. As the new director's salary will be £50,000 plus benefits and a car, the search could cost the Law Society a minimum of £16,650, plus all Korn Ferry's out of pocket expenses, including the cost of advertisements in the papers.

Had the society gone through the normal recruitment advertising route, any of the established legal recruiters would have leapt at the chance, for 15-18 per cent - payable on success only. Will the first complaint on the new director's desk come from the Law Society's own members?

Some lawyers never seem to learn. The New York law firm Myerson & Kuhn, which once boasted 160 lawyers, has filed for protection from its creditors under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. Its partners may be liable for some of the debt of \$10 million (about £6.06 million). But partner Harvey Myerson has seen it all before; he was one of the driving forces behind Finley Kumble Wagner Heine Underberg Myerson & Casey, which went bankrupt in November 1987 owing more than \$80 million. And Myerson & Kuhn, founded on January 1, 1988 by baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn and Myerson, had several lawyers from the Finley firm. Like Finley, the firm adopted an aggressive recruitment policy - going for big names and promising big money, apparently without the client base to service them.

The first signs of trouble emerged last June when a client, Shearson Lehman Hutton, alleged that the firm had over-billed it by \$2 million. Myerson & Kuhn agreed to repay \$1.2 million in settlement. Since then an increasing number of lawyers have left the firm. But why, knowing the history, did they join in the first place? The former Finley partners in the firm already owe \$3.5 million to Finley's trustee in bankruptcy.

Some London lawyers may remember Myerson. In 1987 he toured the City looking for a UK firm to link up with - far ahead of the present rash of associations. Before any link could take place with the chosen City firm, Finley Kumble went bankrupt.

Lovell White Durrant is going where most British firms fear to tread - Paris. As the French Bar continues to issue draft laws on regulating the French legal profession, which would give the Bar the power to throw all foreign lawyers out on their ears, Lovell is sending two partners to man the new outpost. It says it does not believe that the French Bar will go that far, and that if the expulsion orders do land on partners John Cooper and Russell Sleight's desks the next stop would be the European Commission. But they would have to get in queue. Linklaters & Paine's Paris office is already considering that option.

When the Rolling Stones played at the Houston Astrodome, Texas, late last year the demand for tickets brought an unexpected bonanza to the state's legal eagles. Lawyer Richard Frankoff received two tickets along with his cheque for legal fees after he successfully defended a man charged with resisting arrest while allegedly reselling tickets for the concert (the resale value was between \$200 and \$1,000).

Meanwhile, Sergeant James Zink, of the Pasadena (Texas) Police Department, and a former narcotics officer, found he could not go to the concert and advertised his tickets in the local press. Shortly afterwards, someone rang to express interest. Unfortunately, the hapless caller did not think to ask Zink what he did for a living and offered him not cash but LSD. When he met Zink to effect the exchange he was immediately arrested for possessing narcotics. The fate of the coveted tickets is not known.

Scrivenor

Whenver the Court of Appeal quashes a conviction because of the unreliability of police evidence, as we have seen in the case of the Guildford Four, there will be rejoicing among villains who are suffering the occupational risk of being tried in the Crown Court.

In the Crown Courts of London, and in some provincial centres, almost all police evidence of oral confessions is challenged. But when I began practice at the Bar in 1935 I was advised by my elders to avoid as far as possible challenging police evidence when defending a case. In those days it was rare for policemen to be accused of lying or fabricating evidence. To do so would be to invite rejection of the defence by the jury and the imposition of a heavier sentence by the judge. Confidence in the reliability of

The price of 'bent coppers'

Sir Frederick Lawton calls for a new attitude in police training

police evidence began to wane after 1945. By then many people were using cars and coming into contact with the police over such traffic offences as obstruction and failing to stop at traffic lights. Stories began to circulate about grossly exaggerated police evidence concerning the length of time cars had been left unattended outside shops and untrue evidence about passing traffic lights.

For about a decade after 1945 the police were engaged in investigating breaches of the Defence (General) Regulations. This offence brought them into contact with wealthy and sophisticated offenders, who sometimes tried, with varying success, to

buy themselves out of trouble. Suspicion grew that some policemen were corrupt.

At about the same time, following the report of the Royal Commission on the Police, appointments to the rank of chief constable began to be made from the ranks and not, as before, from retired armed forces officers. In a force in which all members have had the same training and experience there is a tendency, when complaints of misconduct are made against individuals, for all to close

ranks and pretend that nothing untoward happened. Discipline suffers.

The new kind of chief constables sometimes seemed reluctant to discipline adequately members of their forces who had been guilty of serious malpractices.

What is to be done? Changes cannot be brought about by either law or Home Office dictates. Making the admissibility of confessions dependent upon the existence of corroboration in the technical sense of that word might

become a charter of liberty for the guilty.

A requirement that, as in Scotland, there should be some supporting evidence for alleged confessions might be some safeguard; but the police officer who is prepared "to put on the verbals" would probably ensure that there was some such evidence.

What is required is a change of attitude on the part of the police, better standards of discipline enforced by senior officers who are not afraid to be unpopular with those serving under them, and a vigilant judiciary.

During training, the police should be taught that they are the servants of justice and that they will be rewarded and

promoted for their efficiency as such, not, as often now, because they are good thief-catchers, albeit unscrupulous ones. It should become a mark of shame for them to break the rules, not, as can happen now, a sign of their keenness.

The attainment of these standards would probably be helped by introducing into the higher ranks of the police men and women who have shown in some other occupation that they have high standards of behaviour and the ability to ensure that those serving under them comply with their standards. The middle ranks of the armed services might be a source of such talent.

Finally, the judiciary should be able to recognize the signs of police malpractice and avoid becoming "prosecution minded".

The author is a retired Lord Justice of Appeal.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

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Commencing salary will be in accordance with age and qualifications. As an indication, someone who has passed the Part II examinations could anticipate a starting salary in the region of £11,076 to £12,918.

Application form and further details from Clerk of the Committee (Personnel Section), County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX. Tel: Chelmsford (0246) 492211 Ext. 24101 quoting Post No. M003.

JARVIS & BANNISTER

require

2 newly qualified to 1 year qualified assistant solicitors for commercial/insurance building litigation.

Apply in writing with CV to:

7 Great James Street,
London WC1N 3DA

Ref AB

TAMESIDE MAGISTRATES'
COURTS COMMITTEE
COURT CLERK
/SENIOR COURT CLERK

Barrister/Solicitor/Law Graduate or appropriate qualification.

Salary up to £20,568 per annum dependent upon qualifications and experience.

Training or further training given is necessary (including Articles). Removal/legal expenses may be paid.

Applications in writing, by Monday 22nd January 1990, together with the names and addresses of two referees. (Telephone: 061 330 2023).

W.V. GORDON, LL.B., Solicitor,
Clerk to Tameside Magistrates' Courts Committee,
Magistrates' Court, Manchester Road,
Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs. OL7 0BG.

LEGAL ADVISER, CITY
£45,000 PLUS BANKING BENEFITS

Our Client, the merchant banking arm of a major international bank, seeks an experienced capital markets lawyer.

The successful candidate will act as the Company's internal legal adviser in relation to all aspects of its activities, including public and private bond issues, swap transactions, options and other derivative products. The candidate will also be fully involved in the Company's expanding corporate finance activities.

The ideal candidate will be aged between 27 and 35 with relevant experience gained in banking, industry or private practice.

The comprehensive salary and benefits package will be highly attractive and will include a subsidised mortgage.

For further information, please contact Adrian Fox on 01-405 6062 (01-625 9417 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.

QD

QUARRY DOUGALL

UNITED KINGDOM • HONG KONG • NEW ZEALAND • AUSTRALIA

International Counsel
Entertainments Industry

Well-known in the entertainments industry, our client is an international market leader with a multi-million pound turnover. Their worldwide business is complex, dynamic and rapidly growing, using highly sophisticated computer technology.

A qualified lawyer is sought for their prestigious International Operations in London to take responsibility for a varied workload. Reporting to the Senior Vice-President and General Counsel, this is a highly challenging role involving diverse corporate and commercial matters and full legal responsibility for a portfolio of worldwide territories.

A strong commercial and contractual background is required, and specific experience in entertainment

and copyright law would be useful but is not essential. A keen interest in computer applications/technology would also be a distinct advantage. The ideal candidate will have 4/6 years' post-qualification experience.

A highly competitive remuneration package is offered including a substantial salary, company car and free parking.

Interested applicants should forward their CV (including details of current salary and benefits) to Liz Salter or Simon Hankey at Michael Page Legal, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH (fax number

01-831 2612). Details will be held in the strictest confidentiality and will not be forwarded to our client without express prior permission.

MP

Michael Page Legal
International Recruitment Consultants

At the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames you will find a variety of work and training opportunities to develop to your full potential. You will be working with a small but highly professional team.

ASSISTANT/
SENIOR
ASSISTANT
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Up to £23,355 p.a. incl.

A newly or recently qualified solicitor is required to assist in all aspects of Local Government legal work, including advocacy in County, Magistrates and Juvenile Courts and at Planning Inquiries and Industrial Tribunals. You will also have the opportunity to attend and advise Council Committees.



An equal opportunities employer

PRINCIPAL
SOLICITORS

Up to £27,432 p.a. incl.

We have two excellent opportunities for Solicitors with several years' admitted experience, who are hardworking, enthusiastic and have a flair for advocacy. Both postholders will participate in a range of legal activities whilst being responsible for a specialist area.

One post will advise a range of Council Departments and Committees, including Education and Housing and Leisure, on contentious and non-contentious matters relating to common law, planning and other enactments. You will also act as advocate in legal proceedings.

The other will have particular emphasis on child care law with duties relating to children in care and the protection of children in the community.

All posts are based in a pleasant town centre environment close to the Thames. Other benefits include a relocation package, where appropriate, and up to six weeks annual leave.

Application form from the Staffing Officer, Room 235, Guildhall 11, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 1EU. Tel: 01-547 4801 (24 hour answerphone).

Closing date: 5th February 1990.

JOB SHARERS
WELCOME

CLARKSON
WRIGHT & JAKES

SOLICITORS & NOTARIES

We are a long-established and successful firm of Solicitors whose origins date back to the 1870's. The development and success of our firm, which has its base in Orpington with a branch in Petts Wood, derives from providing both our clients and our staff with the highest level of care and attention.

With a total staff of over 30 we provide a broad range of commercial, litigation, property, personal and financial legal services supported by the extensive use of modern technology.

DIRECTOR OF STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION

In response to our growth and the opportunities presented by the ever changing times within which we find ourselves, we have recently developed a detailed business plan for the continued development of our firm, an integral part of which is the appointment of an experienced and sensitive administrator.

The Director will be responsible for all aspects of the firm's administration (other than finance) and staff management.

Please write with full career details to: Leslie Seldon, Managing Partner,
Clarkson Wright & Jakes, Valiant House, 12 Knoll Rise, Orpington, Kent BR6 0PG.

and will report to the firm's Managing Partner.

This challenging position requires someone who will be of partnership calibre, possess highly developed administration skills and the proven ability to communicate effectively, and motivate people at all levels, not essential. A remuneration package will be offered reflecting the importance we attach to this new position.

1265/s8

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01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

Flourish
as an
individual.
In a team.



Everything you have done to become a qualified solicitor suggests a certain amount of individuality. From college to law school to articles to practice, your achievement is yours and yours alone.

So why should we want to tell you about a chance to join a team?

The very reason individuals flourish at Linklaters & Paines is because of our team approach. Underlying this approach is a conviction that individual flair should be nurtured, not brought into line with — or stifled by — the firm.

As a full service City firm, L&P is a major name in your chosen field. And yes, we have an enviable reputation throughout the business world. But what does that mean for people working here?

The scope of our practice is greater than you're likely to find elsewhere. Recognition comes quickly to those who use their own skills for solving problems. And you will have every opportunity to use your imagination and flair for innovation. Why? Because that's the way you — and we — work best.

Find out more about a future with us by contacting Anna Thorne on 01-606 7080, or writing to her at Barrington House, 59-67 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7JA.

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Devon and Cornwall/Avon and Somerset

A youngster is caught red-handed spraying a wall already covered with graffiti. Do you allow for artistic licence or do you make an example of him?

Society depends on you to make decisions on cases like these which are far from cut and dried. A prosecution could be costly both in terms of the youngster's future and court time. Your decision whether or not to prosecute involves the exercise of an important discretion within the criminal justice system.

Criminal advocacy is widely held to be one of the most exhilarating and demanding fields of the legal profession and working for the CPS will make huge demands on your judgement, experience and maturity. However, it is also an extremely supportive environment, with excellent training and there is always an experienced colleague to turn to.

We are looking for newly qualified solicitors and barristers who want a genuine challenge, or more experienced lawyers looking for a fresh lease of life. Whether you are currently in private practice or the public sector, we would like to hear from you. The CPS also offers a sponsored pupillage and article clerk scheme and retraining in advocacy skills and criminal

law for those returning to work or seeking a career change.

The delights of the West Country with its scenic countryside, beautiful coastlines and commercially expanding historic towns await those successfully appointed to current vacancies in Bristol, Exeter, Plymouth and Taunton.

The national structure of the CPS means that vacancies may also be available throughout England and Wales. Our positive attitude to equal opportunities means that we will make every effort to match your working arrangements to your domestic responsibilities.

Starting salaries will depend on experience and location and range between £14,196 to £27,474 (London appointments also receive a weighting allowance up to £1,750) and £9,922 to £13,717 for Articled Clerks and Pupil Barristers.

For further details please contact our recruitment team on 01-273 8172, or write to The Recruitment Team, Crown Prosecution Service, 4-12 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AZ.

We are an equal opportunity employer.



CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY West Midlands

Triplex Lloyd plc is an engineering group, serving the automotive, power, defence, construction and electrical engineering markets of Europe and North America.

The vacancy of Group Company Secretary which Triplex Lloyd is seeking to fill has arisen through the untimely death of the incumbent, and is a special opportunity for an individual to work at Board level in a lively, innovative and highly successful organisation. This dynamism is reflected in the Group's recent growth. Annual turnover has increased from £27 million in 1985 to around £180 million at present, and over the last six years the company has moved from a loss of £992,000 to a profit of over £8 million in 1989.

The main responsibilities will be provision of statutory, legal and administrative Company Secretarial services to the Triplex Lloyd Group. Co-ordinating the management of Company Pension Plans, involvement in mergers, acquisitions and major projects and the monitoring of shareholder investment are also important aspects of the job.

This demanding senior post requires a professionally competent individual with exceptional personal qualities. Candidates must have previous company secretarial experience and preferably be educated to degree level in a legal or financial discipline. Dedication, reliable and accurate reporting and good communication skills are essential for success in this role. The ability to lead and develop a small team is important in the context of the Group's continuing growth.

We offer an excellent remuneration package including competitive salary, annual bonus scheme and good pension plan with life insurance, contributory health insurance and fully expensed executive car.

To apply, please write with full curriculum vitae to:

J A Doel, Chief Executive
Triplex Lloyd plc
Cranford House, Cranford Street
Smethwick, Warley
West Midlands B66 2JR



TRIPLEX LLOYD

City/West End

CONSTRUCTION c. £40,000

A lawyer with some good relevant experience is sought by a recognised Central London firm for its group specialising in non-contentious construction law. This is an excellent opportunity to become involved with a soundly based and expanding team.

PLANNING c. £35,000

An eminent City practice with an enviable reputation in town and country planning law requires a bright and able solicitor, admitted around two years, to join its high profile team dealing with a wide range of planning matters. Relevant drafting experience is essential together with a practical approach and commercial awareness.

Out of London

ADVOCACY To £30,000

A small but forward-thinking practice in East Kent seeks a solicitor at least 3 years pq to act as the firm's advocate across a range of civil and criminal cases. This is an important appointment that is open to individuals who are highly motivated and similarly progressive in attitude.

GENERAL LITIGATION c. £20,000

A well established East Sussex coast practice has an opportunity for a capable young solicitor to assist with an expanding caseload of civil and matrimonial litigation. The position holds good partnership prospects for the right applicant.

Law Personnel

Staff specialists to the legal profession worldwide
95 Aldwych, London WC2B 4JF Tel: 01-242 1281
(answerphone after office hours)

MANAGER — GROUP LEGAL SERVICES

Hereford
Our client, a leading FMCG company with markets world-wide, currently seeks a sole legal adviser to handle company commercial work resulting from its distribution and marketing activities. Attractive location and excellent prospects.

LEGAL ADVISER — TRAVEL ABROAD

Herts
Our client, a world renowned manufacturing company seeks a capable young solicitor with a minimum of 2 years PQE to handle their European work including competition law, joint ventures and acquisitions. The post involves considerable European travel.

EEC LAW

Holborn
Our client, a boutique firm specialises in intellectual property and EEC law. It has a superb client base and is poised for expansion re 1992. It seeks an EEC Competition lawyer to develop this department. There is no specification as to the no. of yrs PQE, however, you must have handled EEC matters for at least 18 months, either pre or post qualification. Languages are extremely useful.

MATRIMONIAL PARTNER

East Midlands
Leading practice seeks to recruit a solicitor with a min of 2/3 years relevant PQE to head the matrimonial department and take over an existing caseload.

**A M S
L T D**

For further information please call or write to:
Jacqui Haworth, Karen Mulvihill or Ian Pearce
Applied Management Sciences Limited
26-28 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE
Tel: 01-405 4571 Evenings 01-858 7640 Fax 01-242 1411

European Legal Counsel - £32 K + 21 CAR (Expensed)

UK subsidiary of this US multinational based in Hounslow requires a newly qual to 3 year qual solicitor/barrister to handle Co/Commercial work incl acquisitions and disposals in Europe, Middle East and Africa. Reasonable amount of travel required.

Company/Commercial - Newly Qualified

Newly qual to 1 year qual solicitor required by the large City firm to handle: acquisition and disposal of priv companies, financing and investment in new or est companies and restructuring of Co's. Training available.

Personal Injury - 1 to 5 year qual Solicitors

A medium sized city firm requires solicitors (1-5 yrs) to handle a large volume of High Court lit including employers' liability, public liability and severe injury claims. Prospects are excellent in this fast expanding firm.

Garfield Robbins

Legal Recruitment and Search Consultants

21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH

Contact Nicholas Robbins LLB on 01-405 1123

EXETER CITY COUNCIL CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CITY TREASURERS DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT SOLICITOR

£16,260-£19,164

Exeter is continuing to enjoy the benefits of significant economic growth. It is the administrative centre of the county and affords easy access to areas of outstanding beauty and pleasant coastlines.

The post of Assistant Solicitor offers an excellent opportunity to obtain experience in a broad range of local authority work including attendance and advice at Committees and dealing with matters arising therefrom.

Advocacy will be involved, covering the areas of Environmental Health, Housing and some planning law, together with general legal services.

We can offer benefits that include a subsidised lease car scheme and where appropriate, generous relocation package and mortgage subsidy.

Closing Date: 2nd February 1990

Please ring Exeter (0322) 266676 (24 hour answering service) for an application form and further details, or write to the Personnel Services Division, Exeter City Council, Civic Centre, Dlx's Field, Exeter, Devon.

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Fax: 01-242 0208

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SHIPPING LAW, Hong Kong. Maritime and Probate opportunities in Hong Kong. Exc City Finance/Security expertise desirable. Please telephone Appointment (01) 242 1281 (ans.af.law.hum.)

YOUNG SOLICITORS offered chance of Commercial and Probate opportunities in Hong Kong. Exc City Finance/Security expertise desirable. Please telephone Appointment (01) 242 1281 (ans.af.law.hum.)

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Previous Page

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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► When we launched Llambias Legal last year, we promised to change the rules in legal recruitment. A promise we continue to keep. But don't just take our word for it. Continuous feedback from both clients and candidates alike proves the point.

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Convinced? We wouldn't necessarily expect you to be. Why not find out for yourself the benefits of our different approach to legal recruitment. To find out more about any of the advertised positions or simply to seek general career guidance, telephone Gary Johnson or Deborah Nicol (LLB) on 01-836 9501.

NEWLY QUALIFIED

London £20,000-£26,000

- Newly or recently qualified solicitors.
- Positions available in all areas of discipline including property, litigation, company and commercial and tax.
- Clients range in size and location.
- Advice given on career direction, cv preparation, interview techniques.

Upon qualification many lawyers review their career direction and it is sometimes difficult to assess this objectively and in an informed manner.

At Llambias Legal we not only recruit lawyers but are able to give impartial and sound advice based on the following:

- Our current knowledge of the legal market which is regularly reviewed.
- Our extensive legal contacts which range from Partners through to Personnel Heads in both Private Practice and Industry.
- Our own training and backgrounds in the area of legal recruitment.
- Our reputation in the market.

If you have reached qualification and need advice on career direction please telephone or write to us at Llambias Legal, Ref. T1601A.

You may find one of our guides may help you in considering career options at this stage.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

W1 From £35,000

- Medium sized central London firm.
- Developing commercial litigation practice.
- Emphasis on construction litigation.
- Minimum 3 years' PQE.

Recognised as a leading long established commercial practice, the firm is committed to continuing the development of its commercial litigation business. Clients range from foreign governments to public and private companies of all sizes.

Experience will be gained in the following areas:

- Transnational disputes.
- International arbitration.
- Insurance matters.
- All forms of contractual dispute.

There will be particular emphasis on construction based litigation, both contentious and non-contentious. Negotiation will be an essential part of the work and individuals should demonstrate good quality experience and high academic achievement. Ability and enthusiasm to develop business will be encouraged. Ref. T1601B.

HEAD OF TAX DEPARTMENT

City From £50,000+

- Dynamic City practice.
- Considerable commercial client base.
- Entrepreneurial approach to business.

This high profile City practice has already demonstrated significant growth in 1989 and now requires a senior corporate tax specialist with a minimum of 3 to 4 years experience.

The position requires experience in:

- Mergers and acquisitions.
- Corporate restructuring/restructuring.
- Advice on all corporate transactions.
- Some knowledge of general employment law.

The successful applicant will possess strong communications skills and corporate tax experience from a recognised practice/organisation. The intention is to develop the tax practice and recruit additional professional staff when appropriate.

Partnership prospects are a reality within this practice. Ref. T1601C.

CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL

City £45,000+

- Dynamic, medium sized City practice.
- 2-5 PQE Solicitor.
- Accelerated partnership prospects for those of the right calibre.
- Reputable Corporate Department.

As one of the major "medium" sized City firms who have seen unprecedented growth both in terms of size and reputation over the last 3 years, the firm now seeks a competent corporate commercial solicitor.

The department is divided into working groups which are organised to meet the needs of a particular client or group of clients or to provide expertise in specialised areas.

Areas of work will include the following:

- Formation of companies.
- Yellow Book work.
- Joint ventures.
- Corporate reconstructions.
- Flotations, mergers and acquisitions.

Candidates should have good academics and already have a successful background in this area of law. Ref. T1601D.

01-836 9501



PUTTING THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE RIGHT JOBS

Llambias Legal, FREEPOST, 410 Strand, London WC2R 0BR.
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AND DEVELOPMENT

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CORIATS are a leading law firm and associated trustee company in the British Crown Colony of the Turks and Caicos Islands. Twin offices serve a multi-national variety of clients, mainly corporate and professional. To continue established growth, we now need two additional Barristers or Solicitors able to maintain the highest standards, show responsibility and work hard as part of an integrated young team.

A broad range of company, commercial, chancery and tax work is involved, all in an international context. We also represent several major resort hotel developments. Prospects are unlimited; a rare opportunity to combine career with lifestyle.

U.S. Dollar salaries will be highly competitive, and tax-free. Applicants should be under 40 years of age, and have at least one year of experience. Interviews will be held in London. Please apply with curriculum vitae to Christine O'Reilly at:

Coriats & Company
Sabre House, P.O. Box 171
Grand Turk
Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies.

SHEFFIELD MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE

DEPUTY CLERK TO THE JUSTICES

Barristers and solicitors, preferably with qualification and proven ability in resource and personnel management, are invited to apply for this important post, which becomes vacant at the end of June.

The successful applicant will deputise over the entire range of the Clerk's duties, showing a high quality of personal leadership and initiative.

Features of the post:

- 100 courts a week, serving a population in excess of 525,000, a Bench of 350 lay magistrates and a stipendiary magistrate;
- a modern air-conditioned court building in the city centre, housing a staff of 110 using modern computerised and word-processing systems, own parking;
- the Division has its own magistrates' courts committee, Lord Chancellor's advisory committee, and excellent training facilities;
- salary in the range of £30,975 - £33,783, superannuable, with appropriate relocation package;
- close to the splendid countryside of the Peak District, and the Yorkshire Dales not too far away;
- excellent sporting and cultural opportunities in a City "on the move".

Apply no later than Monday, 26th February, 1990 giving full details about yourself, and the names and addresses of two referees, marking the envelope "Confidential - Deputy Clerk". Short-listed applicants will be invited to attend for interview on Monday, 19th March, 1990.

Magistrates' Court,
Castle Street,
SHEFFIELD, S3 8LU
Telephone 0742-748535
Fax 0742-720129

John Richman, B.A.
Solicitor,
Clerk to the Justices.

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Lawyers

Glasgow Based

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board administers a scheme for awarding compensation to victims of crimes of violence. There will shortly be vacancies for up to three English or Scottish lawyers to help prepare and present cases for oral hearings before Members of the Board.

Applicants should possess a working knowledge of personal injury law, criminal law, an ability for advocacy and a capacity for hard work. Though based in Glasgow the board operates from a number of regional hearing centres throughout Great Britain and regular travelling will be involved.

Appointments will initially be for a period of 3 to 5 years, with the possibility thereafter of a permanent appointment. Salary as a Legal Officer £14,235 to £18,145 or at Grade 7 £20,185 to £24,075, plus further increments, depending on performance, to a maximum of £28,710. Level of appointment and starting salary according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 8 February 1990) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0246) 468351 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/8271.

HOME
OFFICE

If you wish to speak to a member of the Board's legal staff first, telephone David White on 01-836 9501 extension 173. The Home Office is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from suitably qualified people irrespective of sex, racial origin or disability.

An opportunity
out of the ordinary.
For You?

In the past three years, Simon Olswang & Co has nearly tripled in size. An achievement that has been helped along by the recent addition to our ranks of several lawyers with unquestionable talent and ability.

Almost all of them were from top City firms.

Some are now partners.

What did we offer that those firms couldn't?

More than just the same quality of work for the same remuneration. We offered stimulating opportunities and a unique working environment.

It is one in which achievement, both on an individual and team level is encouraged and rewarded, and in which modern office systems and management style support rather than frustrate.

We now have more to offer to energetic and highly capable lawyers.

Our energies are concentrated on the prime aspects of business law. Corporate Finance, Mergers & Acquisitions, Venture Capital Funding, Intellectual Property, Employment, Communications and Media, Commercial Property, Commercial Litigation and Entertainment.

Our firm now requires two solicitors with the experience, enterprise and ability to become members of our team.

The Commercial Property Group is looking for a senior solicitor and potential partner, to handle all aspects of high-grade commercial property work. He or she may presently be a partner in another firm.

Our Company & Commercial and Entertainment Groups are seeking a solicitor with two years' post-admission experience to work on corporate business taxation and entertainment matters.

These are no ordinary "vacancies". Each is a creation, demanded by our expanding activities.

The growth continues. Are you able to be a part of it?

SIMON OLSWANG & CO

If you would like to discuss a career with us, please contact: Dominique Graham, Graham, Gill & Young, 44/46 Kingsway, Holborn, London WC2B 6EN. Tel: 01-430 1711.

GRAHAM GILL & YOUNG

LEGAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ENVIRONMENTAL
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The major regional firm of Hewitson Becke + Shaw is seeking a solicitor or barrister with an interest in the challenging fields of planning and environmental law to join an established department which has experienced rapid expansion over the last year.

The successful applicant may come from a background of private practice, local government, industry or academic law.

This will be a high-profile appointment, based at the firm's Cambridge office and there are excellent partnership prospects. Applicants should please apply to Stephen Tromans at Shakespeare House, 42 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8EP; Tel: (0223) 461155.

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Advocates, Solicitors & Notaries Public
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LAWYER

Mourant du Feu & Jeune are the largest legal practice in the Channel Islands and are seeking to recruit a qualified lawyer to assist at Partner level in their Corporate/Commercial Department. The work involves the formation of companies, collective investment funds and general corporate investment and banking related matters.

The salary will be negotiable in accordance with qualifications and experience. Applicants should be in possession of local Residential Qualifications.

Please apply in writing with a detailed C.V. to:

Mrs M.E. Leighton,
Personnel Officer,
Mourant du Feu & Jeune,
P.O. Box 87,
18 Grenville Street,
St. Helier,
Jersey
Channel Islands

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

LITIGATION VACANCIES. Experienced Solicitors required for clients in Transport, Marine, Insurance, Organisms and Eastbourne. For details please contact: Mrs. Ashley Taylor on 0665 665679. Ashley Taylor Staff Management, St John's House, 4 London Road, Crawley, West Sussex TN11 0TT.

THAMES VALLEY. Large practice requires experienced Commercial Solicitor. Excellent salary and career prospects. Also several posts for newly qualified Solicitors. Contact: Helen Ashworth daytime 0753/051910, evening 0753/470630. Send CV to: Business Back Up, 66 St Leonards Road, Windsor, Berks. SL4 3BV.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

To £35,000

City
Medium size city firm offering ambitious self-motivated solicitors up to 3 years qualified, excellent Partnership prospects is seeking commercial litigators to handle an all-round mixture of work, including shipping, insurance and some international Commodities. Salary and benefits package first class.

CONSTRUCTION LAW

c. £30,000

City
Progressive city firm seeks young lawyers, up to 18 months PQE to join their busy Construction Law team handling an ever increasing case-load of high profile work. Excellent career prospects and an extremely lucrative benefits package offered.

We are currently recruiting on behalf of many major firms for newly qualified plus solicitors in all areas of Law. Call Paul Staplehurst or Andrew Vignani for more details or write with full CV.

Tel 01 236 4402
ASA LAW
6 Ludgate Square, London EC4M 7AS

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Careers and Welfare Office

STUDENT WELFARE

OFFICER

(2 POSTS)

Applications are invited for two posts of Student Welfare Officer. One post is full-time and the other is for 39 weeks per year (75% of full-time). The successful candidates will be members of the University's Administrative staff but will be based in the Student's Union and will work with its officials. They will be responsible for advising and assisting students on issues such as finance and housing and for providing a support service for tutors and other staff. Candidates should have experience of welfare advisory work, not necessarily in higher education, and be graduate or possess other appropriate qualifications.

Salary according to experience on the Other Related Grade 1 scale (£9,816 to £14,169 p.a.), pro rata for the part-time post.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Staffing Office (Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH. Tel: (0533) 523459.

Closing date for applications is 16 February 1990.

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HORIZONS

The bigger the party, the better

Conferences are an increasing feature of modern life. Joan Venner explains how to get into the business

Organizing conferences is a growing industry. Tony Carcy, chairman of the Association of Conference Executives (ACE), thinks this is partly because of the advance of remote-communication technology. It is easy to talk on the phone, send messages by fax or plug into a computerized information system, but there comes a time when people need to talk face to face.

Conferences are run for many purposes. City institutions have brain-storming sessions in a country hotel. Companies organize courses and seminars for executives, and hold open meetings as public relations exercises. Many company conferences have an incentive element as part of a pep talk for a sales force launching a product, and it makes sense to hold them in a pleasant venue.

Official bodies ask those involved in education and training to watch a videotape about a new system of qualifications.

Associations, from bee-keepers to zoologists, invite their members to an annual convention, when they are addressed by experts.

But today people are not prepared to be lectured for hours on end. Their boredom threshold is

low — they want to be entertained. So the conference organizer's task has altered, and what is arranged is sometimes almost theatrical. Audio-visuals are essential.

Conference organizers fall into two main groups. Some are employees of an organization. Often the task of putting on conferences may be combined with another job, such as marketing executive. Within a professional association, the secretary may do all the donkey work with the aid of a committee.

Then you have a group of independent conference organizers, who have a number of clients for whom they work for a fee.

A sub-group consists of speculative conference houses which identify a market gap — for instance, changes in the sea-travel business in the year 2000 — and organize a conference, hoping to make money.

Pauline Eagle is employed by British Petroleum to organize conferences and undertake BP's corporate entertaining.

Now working as a member of a team on an environmental conference to be held in Frankfurt, she has just returned from a trip to West Germany to inspect suitable hotels. With a professional education



Talking business: formerly a director of training for cosmetics companies, Monica Gamble branched out on her own as a conference organizer

ional consultant, she is also helping to put together a programme on BP and education in Europe.

"For this job," she says, "you need stamina. You must check and double-check and pay tremendous attention to detail. Flexibility is essential and a willingness to work long hours, which can affect one's social life."

"You must have a feeling for people. It is often the attitude of the staff which clinches the deal with a hotel. Do they really want our conference? Can we work

with them? It is a gut feeling."

Monica Gamble, of Monica Gamble and Associates, was director of training with Charles of the Ritz and Yves Saint Laurent. One of her responsibilities was to organize conferences.

About two years ago, she branched out on her own and still undertakes work for cosmetic companies. They are not her sole clients, however. Recently she arranged a function in the Sheraton Skyline for 400 staff from British Airways' new travel shops.

The preparation for such an event is formidable.

Gamble will, if required, provide speakers and come up with a theme for a conference. She finds suitable venues. She arranges all printed materials, organizes films and videos, orders audio-visual equipment, arranges transport, selects food and wine, lays on entertainment if required, and supervises security. Some helpers work part-time, but she does her own secretarial work.

Gamble believes in staying

throughout a conference to follow things through. That may involve rising at 7am because a speaker wants to go through his or her slides, and staying up until midnight. No matter how good a hotel's intentions, things can go wrong.

"I get a buzz out of seeing everything working like clockwork," she says, "and out of clients saying 'That was great. Let's talk about next year.'"

Gamble arranges for invoices to go to the client direct, finding out

in advance what the costs are likely to be. Certain conference organizers may pay for everything and present the client with a bill at the end. Obviously, in such a case more working capital is necessary.

No qualifications are needed to work as a conference organizer. ACE points out, however, that there are certain qualifications and areas of experience which employers will find attractive. These include any degree that proves an interest in people, management or communication; a training in business studies; qualifications in hotel and catering management; and A-level and GCSE passes in subjects related to communication. Administrative experience in public relations, the travel industry or the armed forces can also be useful.

What often happens is that a secretary is asked to organize an office party, shines at the job and, before she knows where she is, is involved in a conference or a training course. It certainly helps to make it clear that one likes organizing, perhaps when entering a new job.

Opportunities also exist to work as conference managers or executives with hotels, conference centres, towns and the growing number of universities which market their facilities for meetings of all kinds.

Further information can be obtained from the Association of Conference Executives, Riverside House, High Street, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE18 6SG.

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If you would like an application form and further details please ring Camberley (0276) 22577 (24 hour answerphone) quoting reference C.63 or

For further information please contact: The Personnel Section, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Heath House, Knoll Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3HD. Tel: Camberley (0276) 686252 Ext. 414.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 26 January 1990.

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For further details please contact:
Teresa Reid 0992 552841 Ext: 244

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For an application form and further details, contact the Personnel Section, Elmbridge Borough Council, New Zealand Avenue, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey KT12 1PS. Telephone (0932) 253249 (Answerphone Service) Ref: T26.

Closing Date: 26 January 1990.

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Fulham Palace Road, W6

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Assistance with professional qualifications or other relevant studies will be provided.

For an informal discussion please call Barry Elliott, Director of Resources on 01-846 7418.

A job description and application pack are available from Mrs Jean Goodwyn, District Finance, Brandenburgh House, Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham Palace Road, London W6 on 01-846 7484.

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RUGBY UNION

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

Opening up the touchline?

Rugby union, once the game for the affluent public school types, is enjoying a wider appeal. David Hands raises questions for the game's future success

Rugby union is enjoying a greater period of popularity than at any time since — according to popular legend — that errant schoolboy at Rugby in 1823, William Webb Ellis, contravened the rules of football as played at his school, picked up the ball and ran with it.

There are now 40 full and associate members of the International Rugby Football Board and more than 100 countries stage games on a regular basis. In 1987, the inaugural World Cup (for the Webb Ellis Trophy) was held in New Zealand and Australia. It comes round for the second time in the British Isles and France next year. International matches in Europe's five nations championship now enjoy the event status accorded to other sporting/social highlights such as Wimbledon, Henley and Ascot.

All of this has happened without any notable achievement in the way the game has been played in Britain. The best teams during the 1980s have been New Zealand and France; they would without doubt have been joined by South Africa but for the limitations on sporting contact with that country. Even so, there was evidence, last year, that the game in the republic is still in good health.

A broader analysis suggests that rugby union, despite its appeal to a cross-section of social and economic classes — the public-school game of the 19th century which became a working-class game in Wales and held instant appeal for the South African Boer and the New Zealander — still draws its adherents in Britain from the affluent society. Indeed, the Rugby Football Union (RFU), in promoting the game to potential sponsors, suggests that the game "remains unique in its precise appeal to many of the nation's decision-makers and the devoted loyalty and affluence of its followers is legendary".

Statistical evidence bears that

out. Figures supplied by the Wembley-based company Research Services Limited indicate that the greatest interest comes from the A and B social categories, which is confirmed by the nature of companies involved in sponsorship of rugby union at its most public level.

In fact, in terms of interest in sport shown by the population of the United Kingdom, rugby union only just gets into the top 20 of a chart headed by snooker, athletics and swimming. Among males, the interest shown elevates it to eleventh position, with snooker again heading the chart followed by football and athletics.

In terms of active involvement, rugby union is outside the top 20, with 5 per cent of the total male population and 12 per cent of the group aged between 15 and 24. The sport with the greatest involvement is swimming, and, for the younger group, pool.

It is the fear that a growing number of children remain unexposed to rugby union which has caused an upsurge in Britain of youth development programmes by the national unions. They are aware that, during the 1990s, the reduction in the birth rate will begin to bite on all sports.

Or does rugby union make a huge impact upon television audiences. The most popular sports programme in the first half of 1989 was the heavyweight boxing match between Mike Tyson and Frank Bruno, which drew more than 12 million viewers. Compare this with the 17 million to 20 million who regularly tune in to a soap opera such as *Coronation Street*. No rugby match made it into the top 20; the best viewing figure was the six million who watched highlights of France v Wales on February 18.

Indeed, the viewing figures for the whole decade have maintained a consistency which clearly does not hinge upon success or failure and confirms, again, the loyalty to



A game in decline? France power away from Wales in last year's international, the highlights of which attracted six million television viewers

'I don't want to take people out of the game to watch England. I'm far more concerned with the support of 2,000 clubs across the country'

because we have always been a participating sport.

"I don't want to take people out of the game or off the touchline to watch England. I'm far more concerned with the support of 2,000 clubs up and down the country." Yet, in contrast with what has gone before, the upsurge in interest is undeniable and the

opportunity to sell the game to a greater number of people in Europe will come in 1991 with the World Cup, which will be staged in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Dublin, Belfast, Paris and various other provincial centres, with the final at Twickenham.

The dangers inherent for an amateur game are obvious. Rugby

union is seeking a formula to loosen the regulations which do not permit players to make money from the game, regulations which have been less readily accepted in some parts of the world than others.

The more money coming into the game, the more time required of leading players to prepare for it, the greater the threat to both the essential attraction of amateurism (the player who plays for the love of it) and the concept of sportsmanship which is a vital ingredient of rugby. Can the game, in its present form, survive without vigilant protection of sportsmanship in an arena of intense physical contact?

Welsh game's future rests in young hands

This is not meant to be a tale of woe. It is, however, a tale of Welsh rugby's missed opportunities — though all is not yet lost. There is a boy I know well. Parental hints that to be in a school choir might be to follow in the footsteps of the knighted Evans or some other golden-tongued Welshman wooing audiences in Salzburg, Vienna or New York, or that time spent in the school's dramatics might eventually win West End awards and hearts, like an Anthony Hopkins, fall largely on plugged ears.

The smell of grass and soil is no match for the snuff of the limelight that wafts through dressing-room windows. Conversations turn instead to the recent exploits of Neath RFC.

Read the headlines, hear the rumours, and you may be persuaded that rugby in Wales is in terminal decline. But down below there is a knowledge, interest and enthusiasm that those who govern the game are failing to promote.

There is a willing audience. These young players are ready and waiting for a lead. Instead, the Welsh Rugby Union looks old and racked with argument. The major clubs look stilted, stuffy and complacent.

The WRU and the clubs must change with leisure time's changing appeal. If they want some idea of sport promotion on limited resources, they should visit the Cardiff ice rink and watch the Red Devils ice hockey team. Starting from scratch only a few years ago, the rink is now packed on Sunday evenings. It is made to appear a lot of fun.

That rugby should attempt to appeal, for instance, to the whole family remains a foreign and distant idea. That rugby is losing ground in its traditional constituency, the schools, is a further problem. The WRU does not quite know what to do with them. The schools and youth sections of Welsh rugby are in direct competition, in some instances, for the same players. There is no firm

A tale of missed opportunities could still have a happy ending

policy for the development of under-19 rugby.

That it has failed to find articulate spokesmen is to have grossly misunderstood the role the media could play

in rugby's promotion. The WRU frowned on player interviews on radio and television so that the game's strongest asset, its appeal to the young, was so low key as to be almost invisible.

The problem now needs to be in focus. The need to reverse the trend is this decade's challenge.

Gerald Davies

● The author is a former Welsh rugby international.

The league system in rugby union draws new interest across all levels

League climber

While the British have won a reputation for codifying a wide variety of sports, other nations have organized themselves to play some games better than their inventors (*David Hands writes*). One of the oldest league systems in rugby union is found in Argentina, while, in Britain, the structures have been adopted slowly.

There have been league and knockout competitions for many years, but only on a localized scale. Scotland was the first to adopt an integrated national league, in 1973-4, but was followed by England only in 1987-8. Ireland and Wales propose to put national divisions on top of existing

provincial and district leagues next season.

This slow acceptance stems, in part, from the social background to the game, the cherished privilege of individual clubs to play whom they chose and perhaps, in England, the connotation of the word "league" after the formation of the professional Rugby League. None the less, league rugby in Scotland, now sponsored by McEwans, the brewers, has been judged to have played a considerable role in the success of that country's game, despite slim playing

resources. It may now be doing the same for England, whose playing resources are so much greater, via the Courage Clubs Championship.

Figures collated on behalf of Courage — also a brewing firm — suggest that the new competition has not swelled playing numbers yet, but it has significantly increased interest, particularly in the three national and two area leagues whose games are most widely reported. Below that level, there is increased club membership, recognition perhaps of frustrated ambition

and a drive to improve facilities.

Scotland's experience, in the view of Duncan Paterson, the former international scrum half who will manage his country's team in New Zealand this summer, is that the leagues have provided a climate in which other aspects of the game have flourished.

In England, it seems likely that the national divisions will, ultimately, be reduced in size to accommodate home and away matches. The formation of some form of British "super league", drawn from the leading clubs in the four home unions, or of a European league, will remain a live issue in the early 1990s.

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RUGBY UNION/2

ine?



Rugby union has always had an aura of freemasonry, doubtless derived from its original public school grounding. The fact that it is now, genuinely, a game for all social classes has not destroyed the old-school atmosphere and the personal contacts which that phrase always implies.

The social cachet attached to rugby union means that, the world over, a player would be hard pressed not to find a job by virtue of his rugby contacts. Indeed, in Japan to be a rugby player is a positive recommendation for a young man in search of a career, because those who play are reputedly good long-term employees.

In the 1990s, the game is creating its own opportunities and is able to take advantage of the burgeoning leisure and marketing industry. Although the game is still amateur, as far as non-payment is concerned, rugby players can now take advantage of the high profile the game enjoys.

One such player is Will Carling who, at 24, has been captain of England for the past 14 months. Carling is very much a product of his time but, added to the good looks, sporting fame and a sound education (Sedburgh and Durham University), he possesses a single-minded and mature approach which matches well with the young high-flyers of business.

Initially, he opted for the Army as a career, following his father's footsteps although he had not been pushed in that direction. When he discovered that he would not be able to combine international rugby

Will's way

England's future is in young and capable hands, David Hands writes



Carling: "I move the posts"

Horizons. "I have always had the idea of working for myself and, whatever I have been involved with, I have always set goals for myself. When the goal is achieved, you move the posts and set up a fresh one."

Carling is exploring the interaction of sport, and the motivation behind every leading sportsman, with business. He hopes, through seminars and conferences run by his new company, to offer business the sort of incentive which fuels the sports person, and the concepts of management and leadership which he has learnt both from the Army and his sport. At the same time Carling can promote rugby.

"If you are to progress you have to look further than just down your own little tunnel. Rugby can learn from other sports, just as it can from business, and vice versa. It's not just Will Carling promotions; that would be very short term. As soon as you stop playing there is no Will Carling enterprises because sportsmen are very quickly forgotten. There is always someone to take your place."

with the demands of service life, he bought himself out and accepted an executive post with Mobil Oil.

"Certain areas of Army life still appeal to me, those that offer a mental and physical challenge you don't find in civilian life," Carling says. "I enjoyed the professional discipline and it was a difficult decision to leave."

"But, while I would never say that rugby was the be-all and end-all, if you have the chance to play international rugby, you have to give your all to it." Those who aspire to represent their country must tailor their personal and professional lives to the demands of what remains, essentially, a hobby.

But Carling found his hobby had a beneficial side: "When people at Harlequins [his club] knew I was leaving the Army they asked what I was going to do and one of the committee-men had a great friend in Mobil." In due course,

employment was offered; in the intervening period Carling, who had played seven times at centre for England, was asked to be captain at 22. "That greatly heightened my profile and also the work load which rugby takes up, at functions, club appearances and the general responsibilities the captain has towards the game."

He felt that he was not able to give Mobil Oil the time it deserved. "Every day rugby required some time and I felt I could not offer Mobil the time they deserved. You never know how long the rugby will last, but it's a talent I have been given and it's what I want to do to the best of my ability. I have tried to work other things around it, while sustaining a career which would support me when I am no longer playing."

So Carling has set up his own company, Inspirational

Keeping the cash in balance

Sports sponsorship can be a lifeline or can change the nature of the game (David Hands writes). "There is this tremendous atmosphere which must not be spoiled because of too much cash," says Richard Field.

Field is marketing director of Debenham, Tewson and Chinnocks, the international property advisers who, last year, agreed to sponsor Wasps, the first-division club in north London. The deal earned the club £90,000 over three years.

"Sponsors acknowledge the unique quality of rugby union in sport," says Dudley Wood, the Rugby Football Union secretary. "We are very lucky in the way our relationships

Sponsors say the game's unique appeal relies on its amateur status

with business works. We insist on maintaining what we consider is important in the game and, at the same time, sponsors tell us that, if we lose the amateur status we would not see them for dust."

In the past five years the RFU's sponsorship income has gone from £300,000 a year to just short of £4 million. This is not just because, as RFU marketing manager Michael Coley puts it, businesses wish to be associated with "an image of rugged endeavour" but because they

feel they get value for money.

Many sponsors will attract a high proportion of affluent males. Unit trusts (Save and Prosper), Tandem Computers, motor vehicles (Ford), building societies (Gateway) are all involved. The insurance company Bowring is associated via the Oxford v Cambridge university match, while the RFU's major competitions benefit from association with Courage, the brewers, Toshiba, the electronic goods firm, and Pilkington, the glass makers.

Sponsorship provides a ladder of opportunity

The name of Bowring has been synonymous with The Varsity Match for fourteen years. During that time Bowring's untiring efforts coupled with the enthusiasm of each University Rugby Club has lifted the event to one of the high points of the sporting year.

There is now a depth of involvement throughout the game that has been created from a recognition of the mutual benefits of well placed finances. Bowring are now sponsors of both Oxford University R.F.C. and Cambridge University R.U.F.C. throughout the year, and for the first time, last year, sponsored a new Under-21 Varsity Match, thus giving student rugby a major boost. In 1989 Bowring co-sponsored the successful Oxbridge Rugby Tour to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, and at 'starting base' their sponsorship of the new Schools' Sevens competition introduced last season, will continue.

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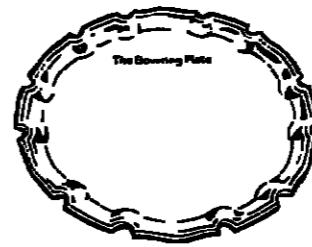
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Switching on the screen revolution

Until his resignation last year, John Bromley had been the guiding light behind ITV's sports coverage for 25 years, setting up London Weekend Television's sports department with Jimmy Hill and going on to become the chairman of ITV's network sports committee and head of ITV sport. He has now joined TSL, an independent production company, as chairman. In the first of three articles on sport and television, he reflects on the growth of ITV sport from its early days

The last year or so has been a dramatic period for independent television sport, with the huge outlay on the exclusive contract with the Football League, the acquisition of the rugby union World Cup and a big athletics contract. There have also been significant cutbacks on other sports as the network's emphasis changes. But whatever lies ahead when the franchises are put up for auction, and whatever impact the new satellite stations have, there is little doubt that the ITV sports network is a serious rival to the BBC.

It was not always thus. When I went to ABC in 1964, ITV sport was not really off the ground, certainly no real rival to the corporation. But things were beginning to change in a period as exciting and as revolutionary for television as this one. The starting point for ITV as a serious sports network was probably the setting up of LWT in 1968 because, when Jimmy Hill and I were approached to go there, we had a blank sheet of paper, and we were able to say "What do we want and who are we going to get?" and much of it started from there.

I worked for the old ABC company at Teddington, where we began to lay the foundations. *World of Sport*, which was set up as the Saturday afternoon rival of *Grandstand*, began there, and some of the team came together there.

We had a stroke of fortune. The big television name of the time was Eamonn Andrews, who was doing *What's My Line*. This is *Life* and *Crackerjack* for the BBC. Donald Baverstock, then the BBC controller of programmes, decided to drop the first two and Brian Tesler, director of programmes for ABC, said "Let's get him."

Andrews had been the voice of radio sport for a long time on *Sports Report*, so we offered a package containing a competitor to *Grandstand* and the *Eamonn Andrews Show*. And he came on £39,000 a year, which was mega-money 25 years ago. He got £500 a chat show and £500 for *World of Sport*, which was serious money in 1965. But it helped give us credibility.

Getting that was not easy. *World of Sport* was a shambles to begin with — none of us knew what we were doing. We were going to call it

Wide World of Sport, but someone said "You can't call it that, you haven't moved out of London in six weeks," and we took the point.

And slowly, particularly after we moved to LWT when ABC was split into the two companies, Thames and LWT, we began to produce a programme to be proud of. It was at LWT that we really began to make a mark on television sport.

As I said, Jimmy and I had a blank piece of paper. We knew there was a bloke at Anglia doing some good stuff, so we went to get him — Bob Gardam, the director who revolutionized football coverage on television. He was very reluctant to come at first, but he was finally persuaded.

And he said "One of the problems is that you don't get any close-ups," because those were the days of two cameras on the gantry on the halfway line, and that was it. So he put a third camera right on the ground and was able to get reaction shots from players.

He knew football and he directed it with a journalist's talent. In 1973, when Jim Montgomery won the Cup for Sunderland with that amazing save from Lorimer, Bob had a camera on Bob Stokoe for the final five minutes of the match, and when the final whistle went he was able to cut to Stokoe running right across Wembley to grab Montgomery and embrace him.

And that 28 seconds told the whole story of the game in a way, and Bob had it, because he had such a good feel.

He also dug the pit at Wembley in order to get the camera lower, so he made a big contribution to changing the way football was filmed. Having got Gardam, we then said, "Who is the best commentator?" "Well, there's this chap Brian Moore on radio, so why don't we go and get him?" And we did.

But our most important signing was a piece of equipment. We went to Michael Peacock, LWT's managing director, and I said, "I hear there is something called a slow-motion machine," and LWT invested £60,000 in it. No one else had one at the time. And it was that machine which made Jimmy Hill football's first analyst.

That machine enabled Jimmy to say "Watch Peters, and look, there's Hurst making a run" or point up a piece of skill or a tackle.



The man who stole the picture from the BBC: Bromley, who dragged sport from under Amey's umbrella, smiles as he asserts his independence

It all came out of that investment and it revolutionized the coverage of football on television. Moore was an excellent commentator, but it was Hill who set the programme apart. That was *The Big Match*.

World of Sport came with us from Teddington but Andrews decided to stay with Thames. We had a replacement lined up, including Reg Gutteridge and a young presenter from Southern Television, Richard Davies, to act as his holiday replacement, and Davies got the part. He then stayed on to read the football results.

So when we went to LWT he became presenter of *World of Sport*. But I said "Richard Davies isn't right, we're going to call you Dickie," which was what everyone called him behind the scenes, anyway. His wife was not very happy about it, I do not think. And then he came back from holidays with a moustache and long sideboards, and suddenly it all gelled and we had our personality presenter. We gave him contact lenses, which also helped because he was as blind as a bat and read copy with difficulty but would not wear glasses on screen.

So it was all coming together. A big problem, of course, was that the BBC had all the contracts. There was no point in even competing with them on rugby, tennis or cricket, and other sports, too, were sewn up initially. So in fact we had to become wide world of sport in a way by bringing in sports from the other side of the world.

It is a stock joke that *World of Sport* was characterized by cliff diving from Acapulco, or even the New York farmers' championship, but we brought in golf from the United States and the first ever showing of the Super Bowl was on *World of Sport*. We started skiing as a television sport, and Australian Rules football, hurling and gaelic football, which have all found a niche in British television, began on *World of Sport*. But, of course, it was a magazine programme, so we only gave anything 20-minute slots.

We had our successes. We thought that football should have a stronger place in the programme, so we invented *On The Ball* as a preview slot, using film and outside broadcasts, which has continued to this day as *Saint and Greavsie*. And the BBC copied it with *Football Focus*, so that was another success.

But one thing which hindered us was wrestling, which had an hour slot in the programme. It was a great success in the ratings war but sports followers could not equate wrestling with sport, and I believe that hour was why we were not taken as seriously as a sports programme as we deserved to be.

The programme survived for 20 years. It was ITV's flagship sports programme for much of that time but it was probably right that it had run its course when it was taken off. I do not regret it coming off, I very much regret the way it was done, because it got caught up in the politics of the network, and the way it was done sapped the morale of the people in ITV sport.

The rules, of course, have changed. When we began we were struggling to compete with the BBC, which held the whip-hand because they had all the contracts, and under Bryan Cowgill they were fiercely competitive.

Cowgill was a fierce competitor. One year we had arranged a football match between BBC sport and ITV sport. "Ginger" heard about it and put a block on it immediately. He sent out a memo saying anyone who played in this match would be fired, so we got a

phone call saying "Sorry, chaps, we've got to cancel."

Sometimes things got out of hand. I remember one year in the early days when there was a punch-up on the Wembley pitch between the two crews trying to get the first interview. There was a frightful row about that. We were called in by Denis Follows, the secretary of the FA, and sitting outside his room was like waiting outside the headmaster's study.

That was taking competitiveness too far. When Cowgill left BBC sport to become controller of BBC1, things quietened down and relationships improved — football might say they became too cosy. Things are changing again, the arrival of new players on the scene meaning that the situation is in turmoil once more, and competitiveness will again be fierce until the new rules are established and everyone has worked out their place on the map. I have no doubt that the Nineties are going to be as exciting as the Sixties (and Seventies and Eighties) were.

Interview: Peter Ball

TOMORROW

Coverage and competition in the Nineties

GOLF

Gamez set to play in illustrious company

From Patricia Davies Tucson

The odd thing about Robert Gamez, the precocious winner of the Northern Telecom Tucson Open on Sunday, is that he finished only 42nd at the US PGA Tour qualifying school in December. Given that he was the 1989 college player of the year, an all-American and unbeaten in the Walker Cup at Peachtree, rather better had been expected of him.

Rather better was what he produced at the Tournament Players' Club at StarPass, finishing with a well-nigh perfect round of 70 for a total of 270, 18 under par, and victory by four shots over Mark Calcavecchia, the Open champion, and Jay Haas, a Walker and Ryder Cup worthy.

Gamez, whose entry into the tournament was assured when Art Wall, the 1959 Masters champion, decided the course was beyond him and asked for his invitation to be passed on to someone who would make more use of it, won \$162,000 and, among many other goodies, invitations to the Masters and the PGA Championships. A graduate of the University of Arizona, he was playing in his first event as a bona fide Tour member but had the advantage of knowing the course well. He also had the vociferous support of those followers who had dragged themselves away from the football play-offs on television. Elway and Montana were the names being bandied about most by the golf followers, but Gamez caught their attention as well.

A stocky, pleasantly self-confident Las Vegas, aged 21, he seemed totally assured on the course, even when he had to work hard to be precise in what should have been a nerve-racking situation. One ahead of David Frost, the defending champion, going into the last round, and two ahead of Haas, he forged further ahead with four strokes in the first 10 holes. "I felt really good," he said, "and I didn't feel nervous at all. I was hitting the ball well, and my wedge into three feet at the 6th was the shot of the day." It gave him some confidence and put him two shots ahead of Haas, who had just had three birdies on the trot. Gamez increased that lead to four at the 7th, where he sank a nine-foot putt for a birdie two, while Haas and Frost each took a bogey.

Three holes from home, Gamez was six ahead of his, by now, resigned pursuers and it was only at the 18th, where he could have taken nine and still won, that he showed some weakness. He hit a bunker, backed out, was still miles from the pin with his third and was thankful to take only three putts. He could hardly stop grinning throughout it all.

Gamez's success has been a surprise. He is a former high jumper, and a former basketball player. He is a former high jumper, and a former basketball player. He is a former high jumper, and a former basketball player.

SKIING

World Cup disruption

Kitzbühel (Reuters) — A women's World Cup super-giant slalom race scheduled for today was cancelled for safety reasons late last night. The decision plunges an already disrupted World Cup programme into more confusion.

© BONN: The father of the West German ski jumper, Dieter Thoma, who was severely

concussed on Sunday after crashing in heavy mist at an event in Czechoslovakia, wants officials to tighten up the safety rules (Reuters reports).

© MILAN: Alberto Tomba, the Italian No. 1, could return to action at Sunday's World Cup slalom in Kitzbühel after fracturing a collarbone (AP reports).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Runs to resort	Weather (Spm)	Temp (°C)	Last snow fall
ANDORRA	20-35	fair varied	poor	fine	-5	8/1
Still good skiing on upper slopes						
AUSTRIA						
Kitzbühel	20-40	warm varied closed	poor	fine	-2	5/1
Still a few good runs available if you know where to go						
Obergurgl	20-100	warm varied	poor	fine	-2	6/1
Many slopes worn, good skiing with well covered pistes on upper slopes at Festkogel and Hochgurgl						
St Anton	30-75	fair varied	poor	fine	-4	6/1
Pistes well maintained, corn snow forming in some areas						
Schladming	15-30	good crust	worn	fine	-6	24/12
Very good piste skiing especially on Planai and Hochwurzen						
FRANCE						
Isola	15-40	icy varied	poor	fine	0	23/12
Plenty of good piste skiing to be found on virtually empty runs. No lift queues						
Val Thorens	10-50	warm crust	worn	fine	-1	22/12
Good skiing on Peleat and Col glaciers and Cime de Caron						
ITALY						
Cervinia	25-60	fair crust	icy	fine	1	8/1
Good conditions on runs out of sun continue						
Courmayeur	15-50	fair poor	closed	sun	1	23/12
All runs still open, snow good in the morning some icy patches in the afternoon						
SWITZERLAND						
Crans Montana	0-40	warm varied	closed	sun	-4	23/12
Still good skiing on glacier and below Cry d'Err						
Gstaad	0-80	good none	closed	fine	-3	12/12
Excellent snow conditions on Les Diablerets glacier, no skiing below 3000m						
Klosters	5-30	poor varied	closed	fine	-2	6/1
Some runs open down to mid stations on Gotschna, Parsenn and Albstadt						
St Moritz	20-60	good varied	worn	fine	-7	6/1
Glacier and upper slopes providing excellent skiing. Off piste hazardous because of rocks						
Verbier	5-50	warm varied	closed	fine	-8	22/12
Good sunny skiing on high peaks over 2,500m						
Wengen	0-5	warm none	closed	fine	-2	22/12
Only Lauberhorn piste open. Lovely weather for walking, skating and curling						
Zermatt	0-50	fair closed	closed	fine	-1	22/12
Best skiing on Klein Matterhorn glacier, all runs to resort still closed						

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

SCOTLAND
Cairngorms snow level, 3000ft; insufficient snow for skiing; access roads closed; chairlifts closed, towns closed. Glencoe: insufficient snow for slalom; access roads open; chairlifts closed, towns closed. Lecht: no snow; access roads closed; chairlifts closed, towns closed. Aonach: snow level, 3000ft; vertical runs: 600ft runs, upper slope, two runs complete, but lower down no snow; access roads closed; chairlifts closed because of high winds; snowgaze chairlift closed, towns and upper lifts closed; lower lifts closed. Glencoe: insufficient snow for skiing; access roads open; chairlifts closed, towns closed. Forres: Cairngorm, Glencoe and the Lecht: rain could be heavy at times in the

west, but lighter and intermittent in the eastern areas; during the afternoon showers, colder weather with scattered showers will extend from the north-west; with showers turning to snow on higher slopes; the cloud base will be around 3,000ft, but lowering to 2,000ft in rain; with patches 1,000ft in the west; in the morning weather, the base will be broken at 3,500ft but lowering to 1,500ft in the west in showers, winds south-west to west reaching gale force; showers will be heavy showers, heavy and more frequent in western areas, with drifting in very strong westerly winds.
© Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL



Making headway: John Elway, of Denver, slips a tackle by Kramer, of Cleveland

History supports the 49ers

By Robert Kirley

To the surprise of nobody, the San Francisco 49ers will go into Super Bowl XXIV, in New Orleans on January 28, as prohibitive favourites to retain their championship of the National Football League.

The 49ers earned the right to defend their title by defeating the overmatched Los Angeles Rams 30-3 in the National Football Conference final on Sunday in San Francisco. The 49ers will face the Denver Broncos, who beat the visiting Cleveland Browns 37-21 in the American Football Conference final to earn their third Super Bowl berth in four years. Denver lost to the New York Giants 39-20 in 1987 and to the Washington Redskins 42-10 in 1988.

The 49ers have won three Super Bowls in the last eight years (1982, 1985 and 1989), but they have failed to beat Denver in three regular-season games in that time.

It is hard to think that an NFL team could play much better than the 49ers. They have outscored two play-off opponents by a combined score of 71-16, totalling 845 yards in offence and not yielding a sack. Against the Rams, who won one of two games between the clubs in the regular season, the 49ers finished with 442 yards to 156 for the Rams and had 29 first downs to nine for LA.

Playing behind seamless protection, Joe Montana completed 26 of 30 passes for 262 yards, two touchdowns and no interceptions. In Denver, John Elway played his best game of the season, connecting on 20 of 36 passes for 383 yards and three touchdowns. Bernie Kosar, of the Browns, was hampered by a finger injury sustained last week. He twice found Brian Brennan for touchdowns in the third quarter, but Cleveland were never able to play from strength because Denver replied with a quick score each time.

RESULTS
AFC championship game
San Francisco 49ers 38-21 Cleveland Browns
First quarter: Denver: Tomlinson, 29yd pass from Montana (Coffey kick), 3:35. Second quarter: Denver: Young, 70yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 8:03. Third quarter: Cleveland: Brown, 27yd pass from Kosar (Coffey kick), 11:41. Denver: McKoy, 5yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 7:00. Fourth quarter: Denver: Young, 70yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 14:01. Third quarter: Denver: Young, 70yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 14:01. Fourth quarter: Denver: Young, 70yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 14:01. Fourth quarter: Denver: Young, 70yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 14:01.

NFC championship game
San Francisco 49ers 38-21 Cleveland Browns
First quarter: LA: Lunsford, 29yd FG, 5:16. Second quarter: Denver: Young, 70yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 8:03. Third quarter: Cleveland: Brown, 27yd pass from Kosar (Coffey kick), 11:41. Denver: McKoy, 5yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 7:00. Fourth quarter: Denver: Young, 70yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 14:01. Third quarter: Denver: Young, 70yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 14:01. Fourth quarter: Denver: Young, 70yd pass from Elway (Tomlinson kick), 14:01.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-offs: Why must we wait?

By Keith Macklin

The shadow cast by the Hillsborough disaster still hovers over professional sport, not least through the Safety of Sports Grounds Act, which has brought some of the poorer clubs close to bankruptcy. The practical effects of the tragedy are still being felt, in a thoroughly annoying way, through late kick-offs.

These irritants reached a new peak when there was a considerable delay to the start of the first division match between Leigh and St Helens at Hillsborough recently. At an already late scheduled kick-off time of 3.30pm, the attendance was a mere 5,500, and many of the potential spectators were clearly exasperated.

The Leigh incident followed similar delays at Wigan, Widnes and Leeds, all of which were tolerated with varying degrees of good and bad humour by crowds already inside. They had difficulty understanding why there is a necessity to kick off late where no crowd problems exist, and where any problems did not cause delays two years ago.

It would be easier to understand if rugby league followers had the large hooligan elements associated with some football clubs, or were disposed to rush turnstiles, doors or barriers. There is no recent history of such tendencies, and even when, in 1954, more than 100,000 swarmed on to the slopes of Old Trafford at Bradford for a Challenge Cup final replay, the game went on as planned with only minor inconvenience on the pitch. Although there were traffic jams for miles around, there were no fatalities.

There are other aspects of the problem. Players are often psychologically and physically badly tuned to a specific starting time, and can go "off the boil" during a delay. Television, radio and newspapers have to re-adjust their timings and deadlines.

"Clubs can delay kick-offs if they choose," David Howes, the league's public affairs executive, said. "But the final arbiters are the police, who obviously are acutely and properly safety conscious after the Hillsborough tragedy."

The axiom that it is better to be safe than sorry is no doubt being applied — perhaps to the point of paranoia.

Surely it would be fairer to let those outside suffer from missing the kick-off. Next time they might arrive earlier.

RUGBY UNION

Etheridge stands in at Newbridge

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

John Etheridge, the England B lock, is to make a guest appearance for Newbridge this evening, although the prospect of his moving from Gloucester has been ruled out. Etheridge has been unable to find a regular place in his club's second row this season — John Brain and Nigel Scriven played in the XV which beat Leicester last weekend — and three Welsh clubs are said to have contacted him.

However, Etheridge has denied that he wants to move from Kingsholm, despite the blandishments of such leading Welsh clubs as Bridgend and Llanelli. He will help Newbridge, who recently lost Andy Sutton to Cardiff, against Neath but only on a short-term basis.

The transfer of Mike Hall, the Wales and British Lions centre from Bridgend to Cardiff has finally been approved. Hall played for Cardiff against Aberavon on permit last weekend, pending the resolution of a dispute over a private matter relating to a loan made to him while he was studying at Cambridge University. Hall plays for Wales against France on Saturday in the five nations' championship.

Phil John, who was a Welsh

Sheldon must miss county cup play-off

Hampshire attempt to reach the semi-finals of the Toshiba county championship against Middlesex on January 31 without Mark Sheldon, the Royal Navy flanker, who has made such an important contribution to bringing the county to the London divisional play-off (David Hands writes).

The game should have been played last month, but was postponed because of bad weather. Now Sheldon is on exercise in the Mediterranean, and his place goes to Phil Della-Savina (Basingstoke). Even so, Hampshire have used only 17 players in the championship and they will hope for a good performance against the Army at Basingstoke tomorrow before playing Middlesex under the Wasps floodlights. The winner plays Cornwall at Redruth in the semi-finals.

HAMPSHIRE (Permit unless stated): A. Ashworth, A. Wilson, D. Oakley (Rushmore), D. Day (Basingstoke), C. Chapman, S. Dwyer (Basingstoke), J. Perry (Basingstoke), J. Saffery, P. Bridgeman (Basingstoke), J. Joy (Royal Navy), J. Davies, P. Della-Savina (Basingstoke), J. Morgan, C. Causton, C. Marshall (Portsmouth), W. Kippen.

replacement last season, has been linked with Swansea. John, the Pontypridd hooker, trained twice with Swansea last week and must be hoping to revive his claim to a cap after being passed over as deputy to Kevin Phillips in favour of Garin Jenkins (Pontypool).

© Martin Drane, a prominent player in Nuneaton's battle to avoid relegation from the Courage County Championship third division, is transferring to Melbourn. Drane, a former Nottingham, Moseley and Midlands stand-off half and full back, played for the Notts, Lincs and Midlands in the county championship final five years ago.

© Fred Howard, the Liverpool Society referee, has been charged of Wales's match against France at Cardiff on Saturday, has now officiated at every first-class ground in England. He completed his first set when refereeing Saracens' game against Bristol at Southgate last Saturday.

© Coventry are hoping that Alex Wyllie, the New Zealand coach, will start his six-week spell with the club by watching their match at Newbridge on Sunday. Wyllie arrives in London on Friday.

Welsh under strength for students' game

As an entree to the main five nations' course at the weekend, the Welsh open the students' international season when they play France on the Cardiff club ground on Saturday, under the captaincy of Simon Bryant, the Cambridge University flanker (David Hands writes).

They will be without Booth, the Cambridge scrum-half, who is the senior Welsh replacement on Saturday, while David Bryant, capped eight times by his country at flanker, broke down twice with a damaged leg during the final trial at the weekend.

Andrew Lewis, of Liverpool University, makes his first Students' Welsh appearance for the Welsh College, Swansea. The Welsh College, Swansea, is a member of the Welsh Rugby Union. The Welsh College, Swansea, is a member of the Welsh Rugby Union. The Welsh College, Swansea, is a member of the Welsh Rugby Union.

هكذا من الأصل

Robson's plans include Lake of TV game in the World Cup

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Paul Lake, Manchester City's versatile defender, was yesterday brought into contention for a place in England's World Cup squad. Lake, aged 21, is the only newcomer in an otherwise predictable list of players to have been invited by the manager, Bobby Robson, to assemble at Lillleshall for fitness assessments on Monday.

It is ironic that Lake should be included in the senior party for the first time in order to take part in such tests. Because of injury, he has been withdrawn more often than he has appeared in the under-21 and, towards the end of last year, B internationals.

Robson, bemused that Lake should so regularly be a casualty, would have promoted him before now. At present he plays at right back for City, and could act as a cover in several positions.

Adaptability, though, is not necessarily beneficial. For example, Mabbott and Stevens, both of Tottenham Hotspur, were invariably se-

By Peter Ball

Football supporters who do not go to Italy for the World Cup finals this summer need not miss much action. The BBC and ITV yesterday published extensive coverage of the first-round matches.

There will be two live matches virtually every day during the first round. Although direct competitors for domestic football, the two networks have shared the World Cup matches to prevent simultaneous transmission of different matches, thereby ensuring that non-football lovers will have an alternative.

Later rounds have still to be allocated and things may even out then, but for the moment ITV seems to have slightly the better of things, with England's opening group match against Ireland on June 11, and the plum fixture between Scotland and Brazil on June 20 on its schedule.

BBC, however, has four of the six matches in England's group, including the top match between England and The Netherlands (June 16) and the two closing and hence potentially decisive matches in the group on June 21, England v Egypt and Ireland v The Netherlands. It also has Scotland's crucial match against Sweden, if only, as it clashes with England v The Netherlands, for Scottish viewers, a game which could

TV schedule

Indicated matches, highlights only; all other matches, live.

JUNE 8: Opening ceremony (ITV); Argentina v Cameroon (ITV).

JUNE 9: Soviet Union v Romania (BBC); Italy v Austria (ITV); United Arab Emirates v Colombia (ITV).

JUNE 10: United States v Czechoslovakia (ITV); Brazil v Sweden (BBC); West Germany v Yugoslavia (BBC).

JUNE 11: Costa Rica v Scotland (ITV); England v Ireland (ITV).

JUNE 12: Belgium v South Korea (ITV); Netherlands v Egypt (BBC).

JUNE 13: Uruguay v Spain (BBC); Argentina v Soviet Union (ITV).

JUNE 14: Yugoslavia v Romania (BBC); Italy v United States (BBC); Cameroon v Romania (BBC).

JUNE 15: Austria v Czechoslovakia (ITV); West Germany v United Arab Emirates (ITV).

JUNE 16: Brazil v Costa Rica (ITV); England v Netherlands (BBC); Sweden v Uruguay (BBC); South Korea v Spain (BBC).

JUNE 17: Ireland v Egypt (ITV); Belgium v Uruguay (BBC); South Korea v Spain (BBC).

JUNE 18: Argentina v Romania (BBC); Cameroon v Soviet Union (BBC).

JUNE 19: West Germany v Colombia (BBC); Yugoslavia v United Arab Emirates (BBC); Italy v Czechoslovakia (ITV); Austria v United States (ITV).

JUNE 20: Brazil v Scotland (ITV); Sweden v Costa Rica (ITV).

JUNE 21: Belgium v Spain (ITV); South Korea v Uruguay (ITV); England v Egypt (BBC); Ireland v Netherlands (BBC).

decide who will accompany Brazil into the next round.

Apart from the fixtures involving the home countries, there are half a dozen matches which catch the imagination. ITV stages the opening ceremony and Argentina v Cameroon on June, and has Italy v Austria the next day, when BBC begins with the Soviet Union v Uruguay.

The first Sunday, June 10, gives BBC a definite advan-

tag, and a difficult decision to take, with Brazil v Sweden, the game it will show, clashing with the almost equally appealing meeting between West Germany and Yugoslavia. ITV has the less attractive match between the United States and Czechoslovakia.

Other games which catch the eye are Argentina v Soviet Union (ITV, June 13), Yugoslavia v Romania (ITV, June 14), Argentina v Romania (BBC, June 18), West Germany v Colombia (BBC, June 19) and Italy v Czechoslovakia (ITV, same day), culminating on the last day, June 21, with Belgium v Spain, recalling that splendid match from 1986 (ITV).

If the games necessitate some measure of choice by viewers, Sky's Eurosport channel will offer a fully comprehensive service. "We will show all 52 games in their entirety, the majority of them live," Richard Russell, Eurosport's controller of production, said.

"Obviously, in the first round clashes mean that we can't show all the matches live, but because we are an all-sport channel we have the flexibility to repeat an afternoon game in full in the evening, which obviously BBC and ITV can't do. The sporting calendar virtually stops for the World Cup and our schedule will reflect that."

Bates makes early exit



Down and out down under: Jeremy Bates, of Britain, during his first-round defeat against Leonardo Lavalle in the Australian Open tennis championships yesterday. Report, page 36

Rally heralds the start of argument over tour

From Richard Streeton, Johannesburg

Pre-tour expectation is rising as South Africa prepares for Mike Gatting and his English players to arrive later this week, but inevitably the cricket talk is overshadowed. Tonight, the various anti-apartheid groups launched their campaign against the tour with a rally in Cape Town, and the arguments for and against seem certain to intensify.

The pattern of protests in the coming weeks is uncertain as no previous body of sportsmen in South Africa have been targeted before in the manner that Gatting's team are about to be. Certainly, the six previous unofficial cricket teams to come here, starting with the SAB English XI in 1981-82, met only sullen resentment among non-whites, whatever the condemnation in the outside world.

This time it will be different. The National Sports Congress (NSC), the newly formed sporting arm of the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM), together with other organizations, are hoping to disrupt the actual matches and to harass the players in their hotels and elsewhere. Krish Naidoo, the NSC general secretary, claims their actions will be "peaceful and effective", but clearly nobody can guarantee that extremists will not go further.

For the authorities, there is the worry that the coming tour will focus world attention on apartheid at a time when

changes and relaxation are being introduced by President F. W. de Klerk's Government. Some people believe the cricket demonstrations could be more damaging than the mostly passive marches on Government buildings and the violations of segregated public facilities that took place in 1989.

The Government, however, have never deviated from the view that the tour is a matter for the South African Cricket Union (SACU). They have shown no signs of intervening at the eleventh hour, as Harold Wilson's Government did in 1970 to stop South Africa touring England. Dr. Ali Bacher, the SACU managing director, was due to captain South Africa on that tour.

Bacher yesterday described the nine months he has spent organizing the tour as "the most emotionally draining period of my life". His anxieties have worsened in recent weeks after being inundated with calls from cricket enthusiasts, who said they would retaliate if demonstrators interfered with the match and players.

"I have to admit there is violence in the air, but people must stay calm," he said. "We know feelings are aroused but it is a time for cool heads and no provocative statements." Bacher acknowledged the right of people to demonstrate peacefully. "There are so few chances to voice their views and it is crucial that they are

allowed to express opposition if they want. SACU can understand peaceful protests, which we believe is the way to avoid violence spiralling."

Bacher admitted he could not guarantee the protests would be peaceful. "After listening to speeches by eminent black politicians, though, I am quietly confident that this tour will not mar the peace and tranquility we are experiencing predominantly during a period of great change in our country." His decision for the tour to proceed stemmed mostly from the need to provide international competition to keep South African cricket strong from top to bottom - otherwise it would wither and die.

Probably, the most worrying factor for him to consider had been whether the tour would jeopardize SACU's development schemes in the black townships. In deference to the African National Congress (ANC), Gatting's players will not be coaching in the townships as originally planned. It was expected, however, that they would do so in 1990-91, when they will fulfil the second tour stipulated by their contracts.

Meanwhile, the itinerary for this first six-week tour was redrafted only last week and is being announced on Thursday, with tickets going on sale for the first time on Friday. The players' reservations have been made under aliases.

Building on a secure footing

By Mitchell Piatto
Golf Correspondent

While the list of venues to stage the Ryder Cup in 1993, when Great Britain and Europe will be the hosts, extends to 12, the choice of the course for the event next year in the United States is the subject of rumour and controversy. Kiawah Island, Charleston, South Carolina, has been awarded the 1991 match by the PGA of America but the selection has been attacked by accusations that the match is being exploited to sell property before the course is built.

They have arisen because the Landmark Land Company purchased the course - situated on Kiawah Island last March - and then having been granted the contract to stage the Cup, elected to switch it from PGA West, California, another of its properties, to its East coast acquisition.

"I have heard the rumours about the match not taking place at Kiawah but it is not definitely green for go unless we get blown away by a hurricane," Gene McCullitt, director for special events for Landmark, says.

McCullitt's remarks were made in the knowledge that Hurricane Hugo had attempted to do exactly that last September at precisely the time when Europe successfully retained the trophy at The Belfry.

Criticism levelled at state of course

"Hugo tried its best to rip us apart," McCullitt says. "It was brutal and a couple of places close by are history. When you have sustained winds of 153 miles per hour, then you know that you can be wiped out. We lost a lot of trees but Pete Dye, the course designer who is now camped out here, reckons we will be able to play the course next September, which is one year before the match takes place. The Ryder Cup will be at Kiawah Island - make no mistake about that."

The PGA of America has stressed that, as the organizers, it visualizes no problems, even though Curtis Strange, the US Open champion, has stated that "they are up against the wall on this one".

Criticism has been levelled at the PGA of America for the choice because the course is still under construction although Gary Schaal, secretary of the PGA of America, points out that at Kiawah Island alternative arrangements could be made. "There are two established courses there on which we could fall back," Schaal says.

Even so, there would appear little doubt as far as Landmark is concerned that the match will be played on the new, ocean-front course. "It is looking now as if you will be able to see the ocean from 14 to 15 of the holes. Pete Dye is obviously excited about that as, of course, we all are at Landmark."

There has been conjecture over the name of the course, although the proposal that it should be called the Ryder Links appears not to be receiving much support. It seems more likely that it will be entitled The Ocean or The Cougar.

1997 a realistic date for Spain

Kiawah Island is 20 miles south of Charleston and will be the venue for the PGA Cup matches between Great Britain and Ireland and the United States in September. The club professionals who contest that match will not play on the new course.

There are three other championship courses, designed by Tom Fazio, Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player, and it is the Fazio-designed Osprey course on which the PGA Cup match will be played.

It is understood that there are 12 contenders to stage the Ryder Cup in 1993 when next it is held this side of the Atlantic. They include The Belfry, where Europe won in 1985 and retained the Cup last September with a tie against the United States.

It is likely that the match will take place in Britain or Ireland although one of the 12 is Club de Campo in Madrid. Ballybunion, Carnoustie, East Sussex, Hillside, Kildare, Portmarnock, Royal Birkdale, St Mellion, Turnberry and Westwirth are also in the market place. If the Ryder Cup is to take place in Spain or on the continent - then 1997 would appear to be a more realistic date.

Swindon dismiss their secretary

By Steve Acteson

Swindon Town yesterday dismissed Dave King, their secretary. Brian Hillier, the chairman of the club, announced King's departure after a board meeting. Hillier said: "The full reasons will come out in due course; for now, let us say simply that he has shown disloyalty to the club."

Hillier, with Lou Macari, the former manager, now at West Ham United, is subject to inquiries over alleged breaches of betting regulations concerning a Newcastle United v Swindon FA Cup tie, in January 1988, and over allegations of payments to players, in breach of regulations, during Macari's time as manager.

Stoke City, whose captain, Chris Kamara, was at Swindon with Macari, are to discuss with the player newspaper allegations that he received irregular payments. Alan Ball, the manager, said: "This has got nothing to do with either Stoke City or myself, but obviously, he'll have to be asked about the situation."

Hillier said: "Myself and the other directors are being

put under tremendous pressure. We are doing our best for Swindon Football Club, but there are others trying to take it away from us."

Swindon, despite occupying the highest League position in their history, seem to have little chance of upsetting Southampton, in their Littlewoods Cup fourth-round replay, at The Dell tonight. Their League positions - Southampton are fourth in the first division and Swindon third in the second - are irrelevant in that Cup football, in many managers' phraseology, "is all about 90 minutes on the night".

But Swindon needed 7½ hours to dispose of Bolton, in the last round, and must face the second most prolific attack in the first division, after Liverpool's.

Rodney Wallace and Matthew Le Tissier, of Southampton, who missed two opportunities to finish off Swindon, at the County Ground, on November 29, have together scored 28 goals this season, and Southampton have been beaten only once in their last 11 matches.

New rules on tickets for finals

By Stuart Jones

The Football Association, persuaded after the Hillsborough disaster to turn last season's FA Cup final over predominantly to the supporters of Liverpool and Everton, is to revert to the former system of allocating tickets. Instead of 70,000 tickets, the allocation for the Merseyside clubs, the teams in the final, at Wembley on May 12, will be offered only 42,000 and the total may not be divided equally.

Speaking after a meeting of the full FA Council in London yesterday, Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, said: "We would need to examine whether it is right for 21,000 tickets to go to each of the finalists because we want to avoid a situation which is unfair."

Kelly added: "Although the total has gone down from 44,000 to 42,000, the allocation has gone up from 51.6 per cent to 53.7 per cent. We never intended for last year's arrangement to become permanent but the principle is now accepted that the finalists should receive more tickets."

Hughes is appointed director of coaching

The Football Association confirmed yesterday that Charles Hughes, the assistant national coach, had become the director of coaching and education (Stuart Jones writes).

Although the FA stressed that only Hughes's title had changed and he was still merely administering the programme on behalf of Bobby Robson, the development has potentially worrying implications.

Hughes is known to favour a method similar to the long-ball game. In spite of official assurances to the contrary, there are fears that he could, from his position of influence, promote the use of this te-

dious and unimaginative tactic.

A former manager of the England amateur and British Olympic teams, he has been at the FA for 27 years. He was appointed national assistant in 1981, the year before Bobby Robson succeeded Ron Greenwood.

Hughes was recently quoted as saying that "the world, and Brazil in particular, has got it all wrong". It was an astonishing statement which could, by the end of the World Cup finals in July, be supremely embarrassing. Brazil, in Robson's opinion, are the favourites to win the tournament.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Athlete banned

A British athlete has been banned by the Amateur Athletic Association (AAA) from competing for two years after evading a drugs test. John Painter, a 31-year-old discus thrower and shot putter, was picked out for a random test last year but did not make himself available.

Painter, a member of the Norfolk Olympians club, had an appeal turned down and the ban - imposed retrospectively from last September - was confirmed by the January meeting of the AAA's general committee.

Doubling up

Mark Cox, the former Davis Cup tennis player and his 15-year-old son, Steven, are favourites to win the national title at the five-day Remington father-and-son tennis championship, which begins at the La Manga Club, Spain, next Monday.



Higgins: daunting task

Testing time

Alex Higgins, winner of the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters for the first time last season, has a daunting task in front of him if he is to successfully defend the title in March. Should Higgins reach the final he is expected to meet Steve Davis, a player he has not beaten in five years.

Team leader

Andy Halliday, of St Albans, has been selected to lead the England indoor hockey team in the four nations' tournament at Crystal Palace on Saturday and Sunday. The opposition will come from Scotland, Wales and Austria.

Not cricket

Delhi (Reuters) - The Indian cricket board faces court action over its decision to drop three leading batsmen from the squad due to begin a two-month tour of New Zealand next week. A writ challenging the selection of the 16-man squad has been filed by Nirmal Sehgal, president of the little-known Human Rights Foundation, who claims the team was picked for considerations other than cricket.

Driver dies

Altenberg (Reuters) - Peter Forster, the promising German bobsleigh driver, died last Friday from injuries sustained in a crash on Altenberg's World Cup run.

Injured Blanco drops out of Cardiff game

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Serge Blanco, who is on the verge of this season of making more international appearances at full back than any previous player, withdrew yesterday from the French team to play Wales in the opening round of the five nations' championship in Cardiff on Saturday.

Blanco tore a groin muscle playing for Biarritz at the weekend, emphasizing that the demands of the club programme can affect all countries in the championship, not just England, whose competitive structure has come under fire recently because of the proximity of league and cup games to international dates.

Jean-Baptiste Lafond (Racing Club de France) resumes his intermittent international career which has brought him 13 caps, the latest against England last season. He will play full back in Cardiff, and Bernard Lacombe (Agen) comes into the replacements.

Team leader

Lafond is a deputy of great ability, possessing strength and pace, if lacking the subtlety of Blanco.

Blanco, who was due to win his 73rd cap (his 61st as a full back, one behind the world record of J. P. R. Williams), said yesterday: "I am specially frustrated as both mentally and physically I had prepared myself for this game. But I figured it was better to pull out now than play at less than 100 per cent and risk provoking permanent damage. There are three more games after this one and I want to be fit."

Philip Rainey, the Ireland full back, received a heavily bruised thigh playing for Ballymena and there is considerable doubt whether he will be able to play against England at Twickenham. England assemble tomorrow in Richmond and work under the new Harlequins lights.

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